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LAST WEEK'S
AVERAGE DAILY SALE
444,000

No 63,103

THE TIMES

THURSDAY JUNE 9 1988

30p

BP increases petrol prices 3.6p a gallon

Forecourt rivalry likely to keep prices down

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Petrol prices on Britain's forecourts are set to rise — but not by as much as some oil companies had been planning.

BP is putting up the price of all its grades of petrol by 3.6p a gallon and Texaco is following suit because demand for petrol in the United States and, to a lesser extent in Europe, has risen by more than 10 per cent in the past week.

At least one of the other leading companies had been planning a price rise even higher than that announced by BP. A senior manager said: "We are glad BP has now made the first move. We just wish they had increased the price even more and it would have been easier for us to make a similar move by the weekend, but we fear that competition will erode the BP increase by then. They just did not move prices up enough."

Esso, which is the UK market leader, is leaving its prices unchanged and Shell, which is a close second to Esso, is watching the situation closely but is planning no price increase. Mobil, which is

in fifth place in the market behind Texaco, is also closely watching the situation but planning no price increase.

However, if BP is successful in making the new higher prices hold, the other leading oil companies will inevitably follow. They, too, have been

A spokesman for the Petroleum Retailers Association said: "We are confused by the BP action. The normal influences on the petrol price are the falling value of sterling or an increase in the price of crude oil. Neither of these factors exist at the moment. We doubt this price increase will stick because Shell and Esso have failed to respond."

arguing for more than three years that they have not been making sufficient return on petrol sales to finance refinery improvements they have had to carry out to produce low lead petrol to meet EEC pollution regulations.

On the Rotterdam spot market, prices for petrol are now 10 per cent higher than a week ago, up from \$165 (£91) a tonne to \$196 a tonne, and the UK oil companies are saying that price competition on the forecourts is eating into their already-stretched profit margins.

The new BP price means that the highest average price should be 174.6p a gallon for four-star, 172.6p for two-star and 168.6p for unleaded petrol, on which there is less tax.

However, forecourt competition in many areas means that the price could be lower. In the Cardiff area, where there are several independent retail groups undercutting the leading oil companies, four-star petrol should still be available at 160p to 163.9p a gallon, although most BP stations will now be selling it at 169p a gallon.

In Manchester, BP stations should still be charging 171p, in Norwich 173p, in Birmingham 171p, in Manchester 171p, in Plymouth 173p and in Glasgow it should be around the London level of 174p. However, in some outlying areas delivery charges mean that prices will be higher. In Lerwick, which is

almost surrounded by the North Sea oilfields, prices will be about 190p a gallon.

The new BP price structure now means that, out of every 174.6p gallon, the Government receives 92.9p in excise duty and 23.1p in VAT. The petrol station owner is guaranteed a minimum profit of 8.3p, leaving BP with 50.3p, out of which it has to take its crude oil and refining costs, and marketing, advertising and transport.

A spokesman for BP said: "Competition at the pumps has meant that we simply aren't making any profit on petrol sales. The international market price for petrol has risen significantly since April and this is the only yardstick we have to measure against."

The oil companies have been criticised for predatory pricing against smaller independent petrol retailers by the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee. But the committee has investigated pricing policies and found that there is no reason to support suggestions that the leading oil companies act in unison when it comes to fixing pump prices.

However, the price increases come at a time of a weak international oil price and a strong pound against the dollar. The AA said last night: "We find it difficult to understand why, when the pound is strong and the world oil price is low, prices should rise. The advice to motorists is to shop around, because there will still be cheap petrol available."

I suppose B.P. stands for BIGGER PROFITS...
B.P. DEARER

Two yachtsmen saved by air searchers



Mr Robin Oakley (left) and Mr Roel Engels, the two yachtsmen who were rescued after competing in the Carlsberg race.

RAF crew praised for rescues

By David Sapsted

Two lone yachtsmen taking part in the Carlsberg transatlantic race were rescued yesterday in an operation praised by the coastguard as "exemplary".

An American navigation satellite sparked off the alert yesterday morning when it picked up a signal from a personal emergency beacon some 200 miles west of the Scilly Isles.

An RAF Nimrod from Kinloss initially located the 30ft trimaran of Mr Robin Oakley, a yachtsman from Luton, but, finding it deserted, persisted in the search and found another competitor, Mr Roel Engels, a Dutch sailor, firing flares from a dinghy having abandoned his 34ft monohull earlier in the day.

It later transpired that Mr Oakley, aged 27, had been picked up by a Spanish trawler after radioing for help when his yacht Stockwood had hit something and been damaged.

The yacht was still afloat last night but Mr Oakley was on his way to the Spanish port of La Coruña aboard the trawler.

Mr Engels, aged 32, who has one child, and was taking part in the race, was rescued by the RAF crew.

Dukakis team ponders Jackson bid for power

From Charles Bremner, Los Angeles

After clinching the Democratic Party presidential nomination, Mr Michael Dukakis yesterday plunged straight into consultations with advisers on how to handle the repeated demands from the Rev Jesse Jackson to be the vice-presidential candidate.

The Massachusetts governor, with uncharacteristic exuberance, kept saying of his success: "We would have thought it 15 months ago!" as he enjoyed a Los Angeles celebration to mark the end of his primary campaign and the start of a five-month duel with Mr George Bush, the Republican nominee apparent.

Mr Dukakis took California, New Mexico, New Jersey and Montana by almost three to one against his black Democratic rival. The voting gave him about 2,200 delegates to the party convention in Atlanta next month, safely beyond the 2,081 majority that only two months ago was thought to be out of reach for any candidate from the primary season alone.

Before flying to St Louis to collect the support of Congressman Richard Gephardt, who was among the Democratic contenders at the turn of the year, Mr Dukakis said that

he would consider Mr Jackson among "many people who deserve special consideration" for the vice-presidential place. He said: "I'm now ready to select a running mate."

Mr Jackson, when asked if he would accept an offer to be the vice-presidential running mate to Mr Dukakis, replied: "I have earned consideration, and if he were to make the offer, I would accept it."

Bush gloom — 7
Hair battle — 7

offer I would give it serious consideration... certainly if Mondale earned consideration in 1976, and if Mrs Ferraro earned consideration in 1984, when I bring to bear seven million votes, bring to bear having finished No. 1 or No. 2 in 46 of 54 states, I've earned that consideration."

Mr Dukakis, who met late on Tuesday night for his second session this week with the black candidate, said that the most important criterion would be to find someone who could take over as president and run the country.

His advisers have made it plain over the last week that they think that Mr Jackson would be a liability as vice-presidential candidate and

that he does not genuinely want the job.

The normally modest governor compared his victory to the June day 28 years ago when John Kennedy took California and sewed up the party nomination.

It was a sweet moment for the man who was written off by many pundits and pollsters only six months ago as an unknown liberal with little to distinguish him from the other six "dwarfs" who had emerged for the Democrats.

After the results, each nominee apparent brought out the weapons he will use against the other in the battle for the White House.

For Mr Bush, the governor is "that liberal from Brooklyn. Let Dukakis talk about gloom and doom and what's wrong with America. I'll be saying what's right with America."

The Vice-President, who has sunk in the opinion polls to the position of undoubted underdog, lamented Mr Dukakis' lack of visible patriotism.

Mr Dukakis made clear that his target will be Mr Bush's lack of a strong identity. "The Bush camp has a problem because there is no positive message."

Murdoch to launch four TV channels

By Richard Evans
Media Editor

Mr Rupert Murdoch, managing director of News International, announced plans yesterday to broadcast four new satellite television channels in Britain from early next year.

Viewers will be able to buy a small dish and receiving equipment for less than £200 and tune in without charge to round-the-clock news, feature films, general entertainment programmes and, probably, sport.

Mr Murdoch, whose Sky Television is leasing channels on the Astra satellite being launched in November, told a press conference in London: "We will be bringing for the

Photograph — 24

first time real choice of viewing to the British and European public, particularly the British public.

"We are seeing the dawn of an age of freedom for viewing and freedom for advertising."

The announcement signals the start of a broadcasting revolution in Britain that will offer viewers the opportunity of tuning in to about 20 new television channels by the early 1990s.

The Sky Television service will begin tests in December and plans to start broadcasting next February.

Amstrad, which is making satellite dishes coupled with receiving equipment for £199 each, inclusive of value-added tax, plans to produce more than a million units in 1989. They should be available in high street shops throughout Britain by next spring. Installation costs will be about £40.

A 10-year lease for three transponders on Astra and an option for a fourth will enable Mr Murdoch to broadcast Sky Channel, currently viewed in Europe, Sky News, which will offer news 24 hours a day, and Sky Movies.

A plan to screen Eurosport, offering continuous sporting action, faces a challenge by rival broadcasting operators before the European Commission.

"We don't expect this to be a serious hitch and regardless of that, we will be doing a fourth channel," Mr Murdoch said.

Sky Channel's general entertainment output is to be expanded to 18 hours a day, with "vastly improved" programme quality.

The remaining six hours will be devoted to the arts and will include music, opera and drama. Sky News will be modelled on CNN, the highly successful American news station, and talks are already

Continued on page 24, col 1

INGENUITY

● Six readers have won a set of the Encyclopaedia Britannica in The Times INGENUITY contest.
● The names of the winners will be published tomorrow, along with the answers to the test of intellectual strength, played over three weeks.

WIN £70,000

Portfolio
— PLUS NEW —
Accumulator
● Two winners shared the £4,000 daily prize yesterday (see page 3).
The Portfolio Accumulator Fund now stands at £70,000.
Portfolio, page 31

IN PART ②

Sterling gain

Pressure for a further rise in base rates eased as the pound recovered against both the mark and the dollar, gaining half a cent to \$1.8155 Page 25

New chances

Redundant executives can gain a new lease of life from going freelance if they can be provided with practical help, says an introduction to appointments... Pages 32-40

Woosnam out

Ian Woosnam, Britain's golfer of the year in 1987, has withdrawn from today's tournament at Moor Park, Rickmansworth after injuring his wrist... Page 44

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Battle fails to save Harty

Surgeons abandoned a plan to give Russell Harty a liver transplant hours before he died.

A liver was being flown to St James's University Hospital in Leeds when the decision was taken, because the 53-year-old television personality was already close to death.

Mr Harty's condition deteriorated last weekend. He was suffering from the most serious form of hepatitis B and acute liver failure.

He underwent two operations, the first, on Monday, to treat a bleeding stomach ulcer, and a second, on Tuesday, to assess his ability to survive a transplant.

The findings convinced doctors that the transplant would be futile. By then a helicopter carrying a medical team with a donor organ was on its way to the hospital.

Full report, page 3
Obituary page 16

Test cricketers face 'frolics' probe

By Alan Lee

Allegations of late night sex frolics involving three England cricketers, during this week's Trent Bridge Test match, are being investigated by the team management. The consequences could be severe with anyone proved to be involved likely to be dropped from the side.

The timing of these new rumours is particularly unfortunate for the captain, Mike Gatting, whose contract is due to be reviewed during the Second Test next week. Gatting already faces trouble because of his insistence on defying the authorities and telling his side of the recent Pakistan crisis in his forthcoming book.

Steps were being taken at Lord's only hours after yesterday's front page story in The Sun appeared, accusing three unnamed England players of public frolics on Sunday. Micky Stewart, England's

team manager, is in charge of an inquiry by the Test and County Cricket Board. He said last night: "I want to find out if this is true. If it is, disciplinary action will be taken."

So far, there is no suggestion of sweeping matters under the carpet and the problem will not simply go away — for another newspaper apparently plans to name the players allegedly involved.

Bearing in mind the repeated warnings issued to England players this year about conduct on and off the field, any disciplinary action could take only one form. If the accusations are found to be true, players involved can expect to be suspended from international duty.

Mr Alan Smith, chief executive of the board, said: "It has to be a possibility that selection for the Second Test will be affected."

Dounreay survey finds cancer rise

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Evidence of a ten-fold increase in leukaemia rates in some children living near the Dounreay nuclear complex in Caithness, Scotland, has been found by a government-backed study.

The independent Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment yesterday published the results of a study of children living near the Dounreay plant, covering 1968-1984.

It says there is "a statistically significant excess of leukaemia near Dounreay." It varied from about double the rate expected for the whole Dounreay area over the entire period investigated, to an increase of more than ten-fold within 12.5 kilometres of the complex over 1979-1984.

However, the study was unable to find levels of radiation from either accidental or authorized release from the plant to account for the excess

cancers. But there were "uncertainties" about dose and risk calculations, especially involving exposure of the foetus and small child.

It was "conceivable" that minute amounts of radioactive material carried home could accumulate and lead to exposure of infants. It emphasized, however, that the number of leukaemia cases overall was small, only six leukaemias being registered among people under 24 within 25 km of Dounreay over the survey period.

The report states: "The evidence of a raised incidence of leukaemia near Dounreay, taken in conjunction with that relating to the area around Sellafield, tends to support the theory that some feature of the nuclear plant that we have examined leads to an increased risk of leukaemia in young people living in the vicinity of those plants."

Overseas hunt for financier's personal assets

By Lawrence Lever

The hunt is on to try to locate the internationally held personal assets of Mr Peter Clowes, whose Barlow Clowes fund management empire is now being wound up, spreading panic among thousands of private investors who have placed more than £180 million with the company.

Although Mr Clowes is understood to have made an offer to surrender all his assets, lawyers involved in the affair are already taking their own steps to trace them. Mr Clowes has provided personal indemnities against any losses suffered by his fund management empire.

There is concern at Mr Clowes' refusal to disclose the whereabouts of at least £138 million which investors

put with the Gibraltar arm of his fund management group. Lawyers acting for the liquidators of the Gibraltar-based Barlow Clowes International yesterday started inquiries into the luxury 101R yacht called *Boulephalos* — named after Alexander the Great's horse — which local people say he owns.

Mr Clowes has been seen regularly on the yacht which cost about \$2.5 million (£1.38 million). Yesterday it was moored near Marbella, on Spain's Costa del Sol.

Inquiries by The Times show that the yacht used to be called *Athina R* and was regularly used by Tina Onassis, the daughter of the late Greek shipping magnate, Aristotle Onassis.

Inquiries are expected to be made into a private Lear Jet with the registration number "G-PJec" which Mr Peter Clowes regularly uses.

Mr Clowes is known to have spent hundreds of thousands of pounds on travelling by private jet to Jersey, Gibraltar, the Isle of Man, Geneva and the Netherlands Antilles.

Mr Clowes is also a director of more than 20 companies operating in diverse areas such as jewellery, computers, property management, and mailing services. Inquiries by The Times show companies within the Barlow Clowes empire have lent about £3 million to two private jewellery companies of which Mr Clowes was appointed a director.

The Clowes family was well known in Manchester as having a taste for fancy cars which included on various occasions a Bentley, a Porsche

Carrera, a Range Rover, two Mercedes and others.

Investigators are also likely to be interested in a range of bank accounts, in London, Gibraltar, Geneva, the Isle of Man, and Jersey, which have been associated with Mr Clowes. These include an account in the name of International Securities AG.

The petition to wind up the Gibraltar company states that some of investors' money has been put into investments which "are of problematic value." Sources in Gibraltar suggested last night that there is about £40 million of investors' money which has not yet been located. They said last night that between £20 and £23 million has been found in cash in Gibraltar.

Plan for Swiss lease, page 25

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Health Departments' Chief Medical Officers

NEWS ROUNDUP

MP prosecution halted by DPP

Mr Ron Brown, Labour MP for Leith, has avoided arrest and court proceedings over damaging the House of Commons mace after the Director of Public Prosecutions yesterday intervened to stop a private prosecution against him. The DPP, Mr Allan Green, QC, said Mr Brown had been "dealt with" by the Commons under its own jurisdiction and it was in the public interest that the prosecution should not be allowed to proceed.

Last week a warrant was issued for Mr Brown's arrest after he failed to answer a private summons claiming he had intentionally or recklessly damaged the mace during an angry scene last April. The case was due to be heard in Telford, Shropshire, on July 21.

The prosecution was started by Mr John McMillan, a Shropshire solicitor, who did not think that Mr Brown's suspension from the Commons was an adequate penalty for causing £1,500 worth of damage to the mace. When Mr Brown failed to appear before Telford magistrates he applied for the arrest warrant.

Submarine strike

Work on Britain's £1 billion nuclear submarine programme, including two Trident vessels, stopped yesterday as more than 13,000 Vickers employees at Barrow, Cumbria, walked out over management plans to reintroduce a fixed two weeks summer holiday. No overtime at the yard has been worked since April and yesterday's walk out came after management had suspended men in the submarine machinery installation department. A mass meeting of members of the Confederation of Ship Building and Engineering Unions will today decide whether to ballot to make the strike official.

Comedian's hearing

The comedian Ken Dodd faced 18 charges of defrauding the Inland Revenue at a six-minute court hearing in Liverpool yesterday. The common law charges dating back to 1972 include 11 charges of delivering false accounts of the profits of Ken Dodd Enterprises and organizations called Happiness Music and Diddy Scripts. The case was adjourned until August 10. Mr Dodd, aged 60, was in Brighton for the funeral of his former agent and was not represented in court.

Crash victim loses leg

An Argentine student was in intensive care yesterday after an operation to amputate his right leg, which was injured when a light plane crashed on to a car he was travelling in on the M62 at Eccles, Greater Manchester, on Tuesday. Mr Santiago Abasazos, aged 33, was a rear seat passenger in the car. The pilot, co-pilot and two other injured students were released from hospital. Investigators believe the pilot may have been blinded by engine oil on his windscreen.

Ghost-writer warned

The Government has warned Mr Paul Greengrass, ghost-writer of *Spycatcher*, the banned memoirs of Peter Wright, that it might attempt to seize the estimated £1 million profit he made from the book. Government action appears to depend on the outcome of its appeal, starting on June 13 in the House of Lords, over whether British newspapers can serialize extracts from the Wright memoirs. So far, almost 1,500,000 copies of *Spycatcher* have been sold worldwide.

Carrier to be raised

Strict safety measures were being taken last night in a 10-square mile area of the North Sea as preparations went ahead to raise a ship containing explosive chemicals. The 1,597-ton chemical carrier Anna Broere sank on May 27 on her way from Rotterdam to Grangemouth after a collision with a Swedish vessel, the Atlantic Compass.

Critics call Kinnock to face queries on defence

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The first signs of a serious backlash against Mr Neil Kinnock's attempt to shift the Labour Party away from unilateralism emerged yesterday.

Mr Kinnock was told by Labour's Parliamentary CND group, which contains many of his left-wing allies as well as hard-left foes, that there was "widespread disquiet" over his dramatic statement on Sunday that "there is now no need for something-for-nothing unilateralism".

Meeting privately at the Commons on Tuesday night the group put itself on a straight collision course with the Labour leader by passing overwhelmingly a motion reaffirming Labour's past unilateralist policy of removing all nuclear weapons and bases from British soil and waters during the lifetime of a parliament.

It agreed to ask Mr Kinnock to explain in greater detail the implications of his remarks that Labour would now use Trident as a bargaining counter to encourage the Soviet Union to give up more of its strategic weapon force.

Last night the group was waiting to hear whether Mr Kinnock would attend. His office said that he was considering the offer.

Meanwhile a letter was sent to the Labour leader voicing concern over his remarks and underlining the group's commitment to existing party policy as passed by a two-thirds majority at the annual conference.

The meeting was attended by about 25 Labour MPs and a handful of Labour peers, a big attendance by the group's usual standards and those of other backbench groups, but considerable interest had been aroused by last Sunday's BBC interview.

Mr Kinnock came under sharp attack at the meeting for enunciating his new position on the British independent deterrent in advance of the review of defence policy over the next few months.

The most worrying feature

of the meeting for Mr Kinnock was that the misgivings were voiced by many of his allies on the left.

Those attending included strong Kinnock supporters such as Mrs Joan Ruddock, Miss Joan Lester, Mr Frank Cook, a Whip, Ms Clare Short, a front-bench spokesman, and Mr David Blunkett, a key ally on the national executive.

When Mr Blunkett, who was also critical of the new leadership line, tried to soften slightly the pro-unilateralist motion by adding a reference to Mr Gorbachev's offer of reciprocal cuts in Soviet forces for giving up Trident, he was easily defeated.

The Labour leader has been a CND supporter since university but on Sunday he said there was no need for a go-it-alone approach because of international disarmament developments. Several speakers complained Mr Kinnock had been "making policy on television".

The meeting was addressed by Mr Kaufman and Mr Clarke about the forthcoming review.

● The outcome of Labour's deputy leadership election between Mr Roy Hattersley and Mr John Prescott could effectively be determined by today's meeting of the executive of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Both camps were predicting a narrow victory last night. An outright nomination by the executive for a Kinnock-Hattersley ticket will virtually seal victory for Mr Hattersley in the 40 per cent union section of Labour's electoral college.

The last dance

A troupe of Aboriginal dancers touring England to celebrate the Australian bicentennial are cutting short the tour because of sore feet. Mr Chris Fullerton, tour coordinator, said: "The concrete has played havoc with their feet".

Thatcher's laser launch

By Robin Young

Mrs Margaret Thatcher sparked a four-engine fire alarm yesterday at the naming of the project to redevelop Battersea Power Station, south London, as the biggest tourist attraction in Europe.

Armed with the biggest laser gun in Britain, she fired a beam which detonated two mid-air maroons and dropped a white curtain to reveal the building's new name, picked out in flame, while purple smoke plumes billowed from two of the 337 ft chimneys.

The explosions caused four fire engines, a fire boat, an emergency rescue tender and several ambulances to race to the scene after 999 calls from alarmed local residents.

The power station, styled by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, is the biggest brick building in the world. Its main hall could accommodate a 22-storey building or engulf St Paul's Cathedral with ease.

Mr John Broome, chairman of the Alton Towers leisure park, north Staffordshire, has taken five years since the power station closed to develop his scheme for its regeneration.

When completed in 1990, it will include 200 rides, shows and exhibitions, London's biggest ice rink, restaurants, shops and conference facilities. Outside there will be acres of pleasure gardens and "white knuckle" rides. The complex will be linked by windowless bullet trains to Victoria Station.

Mrs Thatcher, wearing a white helmet, toured the eight floors of the gutted building, appearing on rusty iron platforms and plywood walkways high above her audience.

She earlier hailed Mr Broome as a man of enterprise and vision. However, just as she was saying that the building could contain 500 jumbo jets, one passed unhelpfully overhead.

Suggestions for the name of the building have included Alton Towers II, Tower Inferno, the Battersea Power-



Mrs Thatcher fires the laser gun (Photograph: John Rogers).

house and South Chelsea Fun Palace. However, in spite of the flamboyance of the launch, it is to be known simply as The Battersea, London.

Mr Broome promised that his project, already employing

1,000 on site and 4,500 jobs in future, would be opened at 2.30pm on May 21 1990.

Mrs Thatcher said: "We have seen the past today. We will be back again in two years time to see the future".

Moore's welfare reforms not over

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

Mr John Moore last night blamed the "dependency culture" on indiscriminate welfare payments, as he made clear the Government is determined to continue studying benefits more closely.

Although the Secretary of State for Social Services did not single out any state payments by name, child benefit and the old age pension seem the most likely candidates for some future limitations.

Mr Moore robustly defended the recent social security reforms, which were maulled by Labour. But he made clear they did not go far enough. "We are now on the right road but we still have some way to go. I have wanted to get to our destination, and thereby secure the benefits of prosperity for everyone, as a society are going to have to keep on asking the hard questions on social policy that too many have avoided."

Mr Moore illustrated his argument in the annual lecture to the Institute of Directors by citing the case of an unmarried young girl in his Croydon constituency who, he said, became pregnant to jump the council housing queue.

● The number of people living on or below the poverty line has soared under the Conservatives, according to a report published today.

The total increased by 55 per cent between 1979 to 1985 to 9.4 million and the number of children affected almost doubled to 2 1/4 million, says the joint report from the Low Pay Unit and the Child Poverty Action Group.

An Abundance of Poverty (Low Pay Unit, 9 Upper Berkeley Street, London W1H 8BY; £2).

Ronald Butt, page 14

Stabbed scientist 'incapable of truth'

By A Staff Reporter

A scientist with an international reputation in the field of particle physics was incapable of telling the truth to the three women in his life, a jury at Oxford Crown Court was told yesterday.

Dr Colin Fisher, aged 51, a father of two, was "duplicious

and triplicitous" in his relations with his wife, his lover of more than 20 years and a woman colleague, the court was told.

Mrs Georgina Stewart, a divorcee, who had been Dr Fisher's lover almost from the time they met 25 years ago, discovered last February that

he was having an affair with another woman.

Dr Fisher had gone to Mrs Stewart's house in Orchard Way, Harwell, near Didcot, when he appeared to laugh at her, she had stabbed him to death.

Mrs Stewart, aged 52, who denied murder but admitted

manslaughter through diminished responsibility, was committed to Littlemore Hospital, Oxford, for psychiatric treatment.

Mr Graeme Williams, QC, for the prosecution, said Dr Fisher lived with his wife, Janet, in Faringdon, Oxfordshire.

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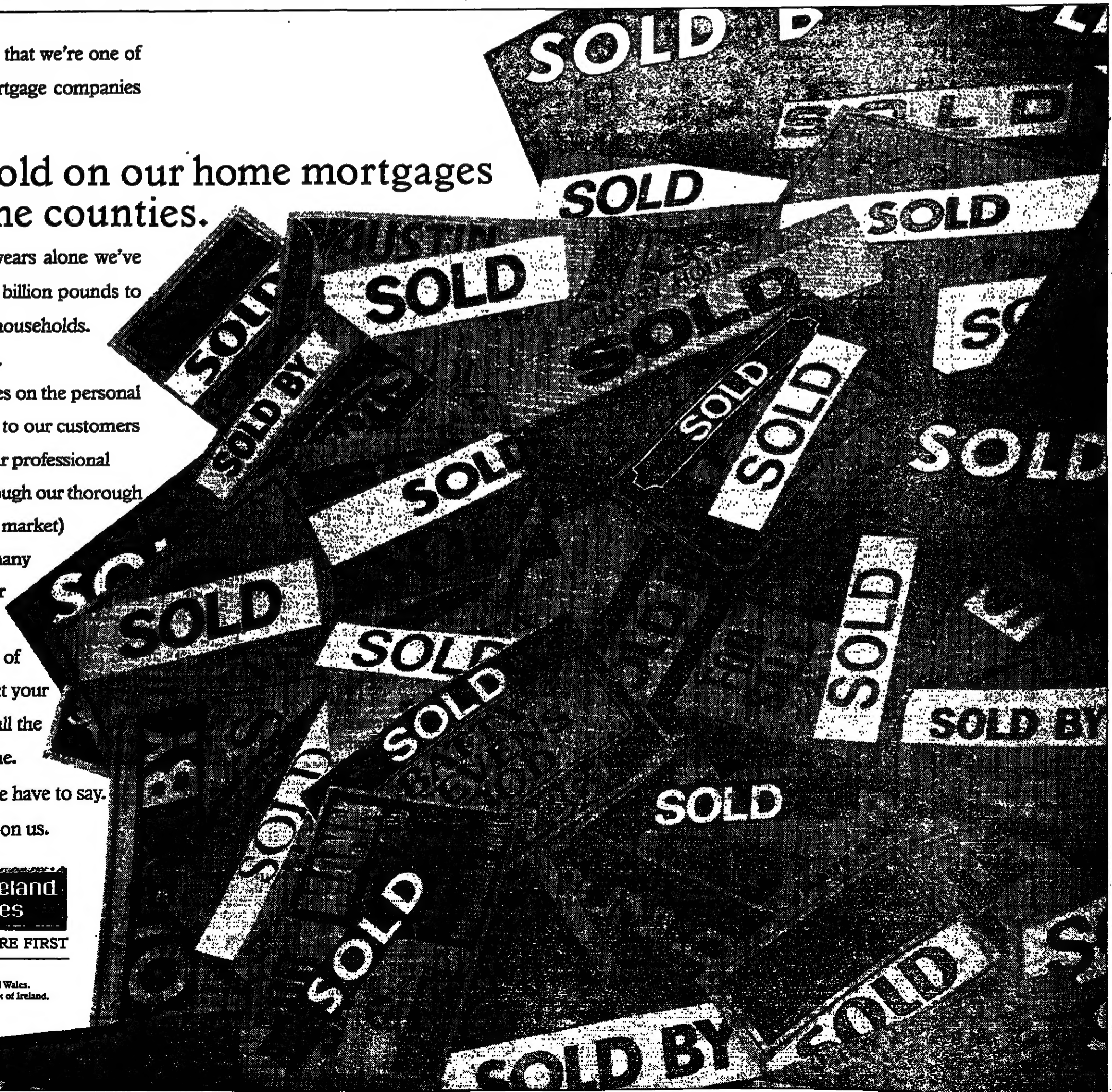
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The fight to save Russell Harty

Doctors forced to abandon liver operation on TV star

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Russell Harty died a few hours after doctors decided not to perform a liver transplant, in spite of a fight by surgeons to collect a donor organ.

The plan to operate was abandoned when it became obvious that his death was imminent. It came shortly before dawn yesterday, bringing to an end a heroic struggle for life by the television personality himself, and the hospital team who fought for five weeks to save him. He was aged 53.

He was suffering from hepatitis B and acute liver failure which was complicated last weekend by another development. An exploratory operation found a stomach ulcer which had started to bleed and required surgery.

By Monday, doctors at St James's University Hospital, Leeds, agreed that his only hope was a transplant, which would have to be performed urgently.

The UK Transplant Service at Bristol, which co-ordinates all such operations, was alerted and by Tuesday had managed through its computerized network of hospital contacts to locate a suitable donor liver.

A team headed by Professor Geoffrey Giles, professor of surgery at St James's, prepared for the operation. Some of them flew in a light aircraft about 200 miles to an undisclosed location on Tuesday afternoon, removed the organ

from a cadaver, and returned by helicopter.

In the meantime Mr Harty's condition had deteriorated further. A second exploratory operation showed that his liver was largely destroyed and that a liver graft, involving up to 12 hours of complex surgery and blood transfusions, would be futile.

The helicopter was unable to land because of poor weather conditions and was circling above Leeds, preparing to divert to Manchester airport. A message was radioed to the surgeons aboard it, conveying the decision to cancel the operation.

The UK Transplant Service was notified at once, but no other suitable patient could be found in time to make use of the liver.

Mr Harty's prospects were bleak from the moment he was admitted, deeply unconscious, to St James's Hospital, on May 3.

He had already spent two weeks at Airedale District Hospital, near Bradford, where his hepatitis was treated with antiviral drugs before he was allowed home. He was readmitted to the hospital two weeks later suffering a relapse and was transferred to St James's.

Doctors there diagnosed fulminant hepatitis B, the most serious form of the highly infectious disease, in which there is severe damage to the liver. It releases toxins which

interfere with the chemical balance in the brain, provoking coma and respiratory failure.

Mr Harty was connected to a ventilator to support his ailing lungs and given regular transfusions to "clean" his blood.

Medical staff struggled to combat the hepatitis with drugs. They were also concerned that abdominal bleeding would result from the liver damage, and that if so, surgery to stem it would be necessary.

Mr Harty was treated in an isolation ward by doctors and nurses wearing protective masks and clothing. Because hepatitis B is so infectious, it is standard practice for hospital staff to be vaccinated against the disease.

Mr Harty regained consciousness after four days and later rallied several times. He was at one stage able to sit up in bed and watch television, and to send out a few words of thanks to the hundreds of people who had sent goodwill messages. Even so, he remained gravely ill.

The option of a transplant had been considered, but Professor Giles, and Professor Monty Losowsky, professor of medicine at the hospital, decided against it because of Mr Harty's condition. Their hope was that Mr Harty would continue to improve, albeit slowly.

"It may be some small comfort to his family and

friends that the publicity may encourage more people to consider organ donation, and enable more lives to be saved", Mr Myc Riggsford, of the UK Transplant Service, said yesterday.

There were many tributes to Mr Harty from his friends in television yesterday.

Michael Parkinson said: "He had a wonderful facility for not taking himself terribly seriously, while at the same time being quite a serious person. He was also a very nice man."

Melvyn Bragg, head of arts at London Weekend Television, said: "As a broadcaster he was consistently underrated. His apparent nonchalance, while it had its drawbacks, could and did lead to a great number of fresh and, above all, enjoyable programmes."

Michael Grade, chief executive of Channel 4, said: "People like Russell are in very short supply in broadcasting. He was very warm-hearted, very funny and a good listener."

Ian Squires, executive producer of the BBC series *Russell Harty's Grand Tour*, broadcast earlier this year, said: "He had a singular talent, either in his warmth and generosity as a human being, or in his ability to observe and translate the world around him. It was a gift given to very few people."

Obituary, page 16

Warrior made of clay



"Warrior", the biggest ceramic sculpture ever created, is on view at Endell Street Place, Covent Garden, London, until June 18. It stands 9ft high, weighs half a ton, and is made up of 13 separately fired sections of coiled clay. It took the sculptress, Althea Barrington-Brown, five months to complete and four men with scaffolding were required to help to assemble it. The work is on sale at £4,000 (Photograph: Peter Trivernor).

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Tribute to unfailing newsagent

Mrs Margaret Allen paid tribute yesterday to a Somerset newsagent whose unfailing delivery of *The Times* made it possible for her to be one of two winners to share the daily prize of £4,000.

Mrs Allen, aged 46, of Muchelney, near Langport, said: "It was not for Mr Foster I would not have won the prize. We live out in the sticks, but he drives out from Langport to deliver the paper in all weathers, and we have it by 8.30 in the morning."

"We live in a seventeenth-century thatched cottage, and we will certainly spend some of the money on getting the thatch redone."

"We will also be giving some to St Margaret's Hospice, near Taunton, where they look after cancer patients."

Mrs Allen is married to a retired photographer, and has a son aged 22.

Mr Peter Targett, of Fotters Bar, Herefordshire, also wins £2,000.

Yard gets pay offer by dealers

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

A group of antiques dealers and art dealers, frustrated at the increase in unsolved art thefts after the disbandment of Scotland Yard's art and antiques squad, has written to the Yard offering to fund the salaries of two detectives and to contribute towards a computerized register of stolen goods.

The group, the Art Trade Standing Committee, is made up of representatives from the main auction houses, the British Antique Dealers' Association and the Society of London Art Dealers.

Mr Colin Reeve, head of security at Christie's, said yesterday: "Now Scotland Yard cannot complain there's not enough money. I don't care who investigates, providing something happens."

In a *Financial Times* article in the *Antiques Trade Gazette*, Mr Reeve, a former detective-superintendent, condemns the continuing lack of specialist policing for art thefts in Britain since the art and antiques squad was disbanded.

He said: "I am getting phone calls from all over the country which are really police inquiries, and daily visits from the police, inquiring of me about stolen property."

The Yard's squad, which had 13 members, was disbanded when Sir Kenneth Newman was Metropolitan Police Commissioner. In March, Control Risks, a company specializing in art security which has Sir Kenneth as a non-executive director, proposed running a computerized system of listing stolen goods.

The Yard said yesterday that propositions from commercial agencies were being considered "with a view to establishing a multi-agency solution to this crime problem". *Salecrim*, page 5

Heiress tells how partner gloated

By Mark Ellis

A wealthy heiress who disapproved her only son in favour of his former mathematics teacher told the High Court in London yesterday how he gloated: "I'm your son now."

Mrs Majorie Ashfield, aged 69, who owns an extensive Norfolk estate and London property, claims she gave money and property worth millions of pounds to Mr Andrew Witham, aged 39.

As Mrs Ashfield recounted details of her business partnership with the former teacher, the two men at the centre of the dispute, Mr Witham and Mr John Ashfield, sat feet apart in court watching her.

Mrs Ashfield claims her actions resulted from "undue influence" and is asking the Chancery Division to set aside her partnership agreement and gifts to Mr Witham over a six-year period.

The court heard that Mr Witham struck up a friendship with the Ashfields while

discussing their son's progress at St Rowan's Preparatory School at Hawkhurst, Kent, in 1974 and was invited to their Norfolk estate.

His enthusiasm for the rural life led him to work for the Ashfields and he quickly established a game farm. The relationship soured because he was not given the tenancy of a large farm.

Mrs Ashfield said: "My husband grudgingly became rather less trusting of him because he could not always account for money."

In 1977, Mrs Ashfield's marriage failed and her husband accused her of being too close to Mr Witham. She said she confided in Mr Witham and left him virtually in charge of her affairs.

Early in 1978, she said, he insisted on a partnership. She remembered him saying, "I'm your son now, I will help you". Later he told her that she should alter her will. The hearing continues today.

Minister against new credit rules

By Rosemary Uasworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

The Government will resist pressure for controls to stop borrowers falling into debt, Mr Francis Maude, Under-Secretary of State for Corporate and Consumer Affairs, said yesterday.

He told a conference in London that it would be wrong to impose restrictions on the availability of credit to protect a small proportion of borrowers. Consumers should be as careful in shopping around for credit as they were for groceries.

Mr Maude said he welcomed the decisions of Save and Prosper, the financial services group, and Chase Manhattan Bank to offer credit cards at annual percentage rates of about 17 per cent. Access and Visa both charge about 23.

At the same conference - organized by the Money Management Council and Lovell White Durrant, a City law firm - Mr Peter Ellwood, chief executive of Barclaycard,

said borrowers understood the implications of credit and did not need to be protected from themselves.

"There are large numbers of people whose standards of living have been improved through the provision of credit, people who have no difficulty in managing the credit they choose to take", he said.

Such people were the vast majority of Britain's 20 million credit card holders.

Credit card issuers maintain that only about 1 per cent of customers have repayment problems.

Advertisements for mortgage interest rates are frequently misleading, Westminster trading standards officers said yesterday.

Annual percentage and flat rates of interest were confused by building societies and banks in a sample of 65 advertisements published in May - 59 breached the Consumer Credit Act.

Government complaints 'nonsense'

A-level reforms 'will come in the end'

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

The architect of the government-commissioned proposals for A-level reform, which have been rejected by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, yesterday attacked the Government's complaints as "nonsense" and said: "The Government will have to recover a bit from its present attitude."

Dr Gordon Higginson, vice-chancellor of Southampton University, also said that his plan for a standard sixth form curriculum of five "easier, tougher" A-levels for sixth formers would ultimately have to be adopted.

He added, however, "I may take fifteen years instead of the six years we had envisaged."

The report is to be considered by the Department of Education and Science and by the School Examinations and

Assessment Council set up by Mr Baker. Secretary of State for Education and Science, to oversee examination and testing reforms in the present Education Reform Bill.

Mr Baker rejected the committee's plan because, Civil Servants said, it would overload the school system. Another reason given was that the plan would reduce the "rigour" of A-levels.

Dr Higginson firmly rejected both those claims yesterday. He said: "This is nonsense. If the Government means that it would be a burden for schools to introduce major reforms, this was perfectly well known a year ago when my committee was set up. We looked very carefully into this question."

"As far as rigour is concerned, that is nonsense too. We have proposed more rigour, not less. We proposed that sixth formers spend more time on examination-based work than they do now. We

also said that a much higher level of rigour should be injected into the assessment system itself, which is incoherent and inconsistent all around the country."

To leave A-levels unchanged could turn away many potential students, he suggested.

Industrialists urgently want to see more young people in higher education and to see the routes to university widened beyond A-levels. A group of academics and industrialists led by Lord Prior, the Council for Industry and Higher Education, has gathered comments from 150 leading companies.

The companies agreed "if they are to contribute more in attention, time and resources to higher education, it is likely to be in response to a lead taken by Government to invest in the change to a different and expanded system of higher education".

Adam Smith Institute's view on housing

'Brown' land in Green Belt should be developed

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

Green Belt land should be thrown open to development, and the restrictive planning powers of counties and the Government repealed, the Adam Smith Institute says in a report published today.

Only parish councils - which rarely function in the county areas around London - should be left with planning powers, and they should be encouraged to make financial deals with developers.

According to the institute's calculations, estimates of a million extra people seeking homes in the South-east before the end of the century should be increased to include another million migrants from the North and other parts of the United Kingdom.

Together they would use up only 10 per cent of the Green Belt, and that would not constitute an "environmental disaster".

"The casual traveller through the Green Belt will

A community architecture project involving the renovation of 350 homes in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, could be the next scheme supported by Inner City Aid, the latest charity of the Prince of Wales (Our Architecture Correspondent writes).

Mr Rod Hackney, chairman of the charity's trustees, announced the project last night, when delivering the William and Mary Tercentenary lecture at the Royal Society of Arts. Mr Hackney, who is also president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, said: "Representatives from Inner City Aid have been involved in talks with officials and councillors from Stoke as well as local tenants. Sponsors have already expressed an interest."

The project, if launched, will be led by local

residents, including owner-occupiers, private and council tenants.

Mr Hackney said community architecture and tenant participation were essential for the future well-being of towns and cities. "We know that this country is facing a housing crisis, with many homes regarded as sub-standard, and local authorities, which have seen their housing budgets slashed by successive governments, unable to do anything about it."

"A solution is to encourage natural development in communities and for residents to become involved in making decisions. A regeneration scheme where residents have a say in the redesign and construction of their homes - and do much of the work themselves - keeps communities together."

Against the Green Belt on the grounds that much of it is already unattractive.

The institute estimates that 40 per cent of the 1,200,000 acres of Green Belt around the capital is damaged or derelict, and that far from being green, it consists of "brown" land in the form of riding schools, embankments, abandoned market gardens and disused gravel pits.

To relieve congestion in the South-east, the institute

recommends that people be encouraged to leave council housing and buy in the private sector, possibly by means of a subsidy from the affected council.

It also recommends that developers be given permission to build shops and housing on Green Belt land provided they set funds aside for parks.

The institute pays tribute to the former Greater London Council for the park it pro-

posed along the River Colne on the western edge of London.

The economic success of the South-east should not be regretted but celebrated, it says. The price of housing in the area would be cut if sufficient land were made available.

"The gainers will be landowners who dispose of land previously zoned for agriculture; local communities; and the purchasers of newly built houses."

The institute objects to the idea of planned new towns, and favours scattered development throughout the Green Belt.

That would not mean the landscape being covered in concrete: the typical house and drive would occupy only about a third of a typical one-twelfth-of-an-acre plot, and the remainder would probably be cultivated in a much more presentable manner than by farmers.

The Green Quadrant (Adam Smith Institute, PO Box 316, London SW1; £9).

Judges welcome proposed reform

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Judges are expected to move swiftly to implement a number of the far-reaching reforms to cut delays and costs in the civil courts outlined in the report from the Lord Chancellor's civil justice review team this week.

The radical proposals, which would gear the civil courts system towards consumer needs, are expected to be put before the new Judges' Council, which has recently been created for High Court and Court of Appeal judges.

Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Master of the Rolls, who with the other heads of High Court divisions is on the Judges' Council, said yesterday: "Undoubtedly all the judges will welcome the report."

"We all want to make changes but could not do it without the views of the civil justice review." The report would now give the judges a basis on which to act, he said, basis on which to act, he said, basis on which to act, he said.

to implement the measures requiring legislation is not feasible for two to three years, a number of the procedural reforms merely require rule changes.

The new Judges' Council is the first policy-making body to be created for the judiciary. The report also recommends that the long vacation be cut from two months to one so that September could be much more fully utilized for court sittings (but with the holiday entitlement of judges to remain the same); and that there be a daily court-room target of five hours.

The cut in the long vacation is not, as some believe, a cut in judges' holidays and the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, said it would give them greater flexibility with holidays than now.

Opposition loomed yesterday however from the Bar and the Law Society to proposals that lawyers should publicize their charging rates near case or per hour.

Bank 'tricked into funding gin smuggling'

A businessman tricked the Johnson Matthey bank into funding a gin smuggling operation to Nigeria, a Central Criminal Court jury was told yesterday.

Gesta Lakhiani, aged 52, persuaded the bank to lend her almost £18,000 by pretending that her company was exporting household detergent.

In fact, it was alleged, the funds were to be used to finance a cargo of gin.

Mr Ashley Gordon, for the prosecution, said: "If Johnson Matthey had known they were dealing with containers of gin to be effectively smuggled into Nigeria they would never have agreed to the loan."

It was alleged the company director twice conned the bank into parting with £17,953. Both times she produced documentation to show four times the security she possessed.

The defendant, of Kingsbury, north London, pleaded not guilty to dishonestly obtaining an overdraft from the bank.

The trial continues.

Church raid

Police were yesterday investigating a £250,000 antiques raid at the church of St Mary Magdalene, Croome D'Abitot, near Malvern, Hereford and Worcester. Among items stolen was a carved wooden font designed by Robert Adams.

Five arrested

Five people were arrested yesterday in swoops across the south of England by police investigating a £150,000 raid on April 29 on Bowood House, Calne, Wiltshire.

REGIONAL TRENDS Boom in South-west • North-west robbery increase • Scots head death rate • More illness in Wales

Prosperous East Anglia sheds poor relation image

By Andrew Morgan

East Anglia, so long the poor relation in regional prosperity, continues to lead British regions in growth rate, followed closely by the South-west, according to official government figures published today.

Population growth, reflecting the sensitive indicator of migration, is highest in East Anglia and the South-west, where the numbers of self-employed have almost doubled since 1979.

The report, *Regional Trends 1988*, published by the Central Statistical Office, has compiled figures, mostly for 1986 and 1987, from many sources. Combined, they add formal evidence to recent qualitative observations on upward regional trends.

Mr Tom Griffin, the report's editor, said: "Dramatic changes from year to year are unlikely. I doubt that figures are lurking which would change these trends if they were suddenly available."

There is also compelling evidence that the North-South divide continues to widen, with the difference in average household income between the North and the South-east doubling between 1980 and 1986 from £43 to £82. Last year, the average male weekly earnings were £254 in the South-east compared with £204 in the East Midlands.

At the same time, in 1985/86, the average household expenditure was £202 a week in the South-east and only £145 in the North. Net emigration was recorded from the West Midlands, Scotland, Yorkshire and Humberside,

the North, Scotland and Northern Ireland, with a net immigration of 45,000 to the South-east, excluding Greater London. The biggest population flow was the 83,000 who moved from the South-east to the South-west.

Peri-natal mortality, often a guide to quality of life, hints further at the divide, with the highest rates in the West Midlands and Yorkshire, compared with lower rates in the South-east and South-west.

However, Mr Griffin suggested a straight economic North-South divide is too simplistic because there are complex variations within regions. He said the average gross domestic product (GDP) per head in the South-east grew rapidly up to 1980 but, after that, it has shown variations, even though house prices still pull ahead of the rest of the country.

"Such prices are linked with people's ability to pay, but not always. The South-east still has the highest earnings for both men and women but there are parts of Kent, for instance, which are not well off. The South-east leads, but it is not becoming relatively more prosperous."

The report also highlights the national increase in illegitimate births from 9 per cent in 1976 to 21 per cent in 1986, with the highest figures recorded in the North-west and the North.

However, there are interesting variations within regions: in Greater London, nearly half the births in Lambeth were

illegitimate in 1986 but Harrow had just over 10 per cent. In the North, in Cleveland, nearly 30 per cent of births were outside marriage but in Cumbria only 24.4 per cent were illegitimate.

Miss Jenny Church, the associate editor, said that although the number had risen, a large proportion of births are registered by both parents at the same address. "In fact, a lot of those extra registrations show that the child is being brought up in a stable and caring non-marital relationship."

She suggested that it would be hard to link illegitimacy with unemployment because the lowest rate of illegitimacy is in Northern Ireland which has the highest levels of unemployment.

This twenty-third report also shows that cigarette smoking has declined in all regions but Scotland still shows the highest incidence. Households in the South-east still spend most on consumer durables, although washing-machine ownership remains the lowest in Britain.

But it is the continuing rise of East Anglia, with an average population growth rate of 1 per cent a year between 1981 and 1986, which has caught the eye. Growth in the industrial and service sectors has led to an increase in people in employment and an increase in GDP per head above the national average second only to the South-east. It shared the highest levels of house building with the South-west.

However, weekly earnings

have remained below the national average and this could be the result of poor pay in the agricultural sector dragging it down.

Mr Griffin conceded industry and the service sector may have relocated to both East Anglia and the South-west to take advantage of low local wage levels. He added: "Migration is a good indicator of an area's prosperity because people go to attractive areas where there is work."

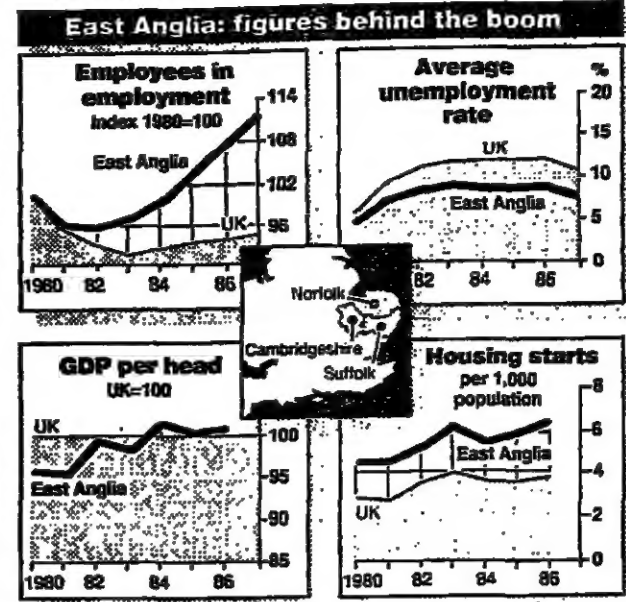
Another attractive feature may be that East Anglia had the lowest regional rate of recorded crime in England and Wales in 1986. It was also the only region in which the rate of people found guilty or cautioned for drugs offences fell between 1981 and 1986.

The South-west is only just behind East Anglia in growth rate, although there are big differences in GDP per head between Avon and Wiltshire, which are above the national average, and Cornwall which is 20 per cent below. Numbers of employed have risen, as have the self-employed, who were 13.6 per cent of the working population last June, the highest figure in the UK.

As before, the report highlights regional differences in food consumption: the North eats most meat, Yorkshire and Humberside most fish, the South-west most cheese, the North most eggs, East Anglia and the South-east most fruit and the North-west most potatoes. *Regional Trends 1988* (Stationery Office, £18.50).



Mr Colin Payne, a technical support engineer with the Scientific Laser-Coherent Laboratory at the Cambridge Science Park, an example of the town's expanding economy.



Tempered welcome for growth

Parts of East Anglia are growing so fast that planners are concerned about "over-heating" in areas such as Cambridge where more than 300 high-technology businesses are now established.

A £60,000 research project at Cambridge University is looking at a regional dispersal strategy, for an area up to 15 miles from Cambridge. From that, planners responsible for all of East Anglia are hoping to develop schemes to coax businesses into north Norfolk and Suffolk.

Dr Belinda Godbold, development officer for the Standing Conference of East Anglian Local Authorities, said yesterday rising house prices were still forcing local people out of the market and it was still unclear how many people migrating to East Anglia still worked in London.

"East Anglia had the biggest bowl approach 15 years ago, as agricultural jobs declined, but now we are growing steadily. Our aim is to promote growth throughout the region while maintaining the quality of the environment."

The "Cambridge phenomenon" has prompted the county council to try to interest businesses in such places as Wisbech, Chatteris and March. Cambridge's attraction has been the university, access to seaports, the airport at Stansted and the pleasant environment.

House prices in the Cambridge area are now on a par with London and county council planners are now actively trying to control development. Mr John Ferguson, head of corporate planning, said: "It is a question of encouraging growth but harnessing it for the benefit of the whole county."

Crime is rising in all regions

The highest increase in the rate of notifiable criminal offences was in the North and North-west but there was an upward trend in all regions in the main offence groups. The biggest rises in robbery were in the North-west and West Midlands.

In part, variations can be explained by different techniques for recording crime but probably reflect urban backgrounds. The South-east and West Midlands had the lowest police clear-up rate in 1986, with only 24 per cent. The South-east also recorded the highest number of drug offences.

Motoring offences were similar throughout the country, apart from Northern Ireland, where more than one fifth of such offences in 1986 were for reckless or careless driving.

Class sizes at their lowest in the capital

The average class size in Greater London was marginally the lowest in England for primary and secondary schools in January 1987, with figures of 24.6 and 19.9. The lowest proportion of 16-year-olds staying on in England and Wales for non-advanced education was in the North, and highest in the North-west with 65 per cent.

In the South-east, people spent most on housing but least on food, with the North spending most on alcohol.

Manufacturing industry made the highest regional gross domestic product contribution in the West Midlands in 1986, with one third coming from the sector. Two years ago, Scotland and Yorkshire and Humberside produced the highest yields of wheat, in terms of tonnes per hectare, but actual production was highest in the South-east.

Welsh spend most to keep water clean

The Welsh Water Authority spent most per head on operating pollution control in 1986-87, while the Northumbrian Water Authority spent least. Severn-Trent recorded most reports of pollution in 1986, but the Yorkshire Water Authority made most prosecutions. The greatest densities of acid rain were recorded in Yorkshire and the East Midlands, with the lowest in all western regions.

Highest mortality rate

The highest mortality rates for both men and women in 1986 were recorded in Scotland, while East Anglia recorded the lowest.

That region also had the lowest death rate from heart disease, while Northern Ireland had the highest. The North had the highest incidence of cancer, including leukaemia, while Scotland and Northern Ireland recorded the highest suicide levels.

Highest numbers of men having a vasectomy in 1986

were recorded by the Trent Regional Health Authority. Percentages of men using a contraceptive sheath were highest in the Northern Regional Health Authority with the most women using the contraceptive pill in the Oxford Health Region and the intra-uterine device in the South Western.

Cervical smear examinations were highest in 1986 in the North Western Regional Health Authority and lowest in Mersey.

Labour town halls are devolving best

By David Nicholson-Lord

Despite the "power to the people" rhetoric of the Conservative Government, Labour councils perform significantly better than their Tory counterparts in devolving services and decision-making to the public.

A survey of local authorities also concludes that cuts in public spending in the 1980s have fostered innovation.

The report's authors, from the Institute of Local Government Studies (Inlogov) at Birmingham University, yesterday drew a picture of "shell-shocked" councils struggling to cope with change.

Among the findings of the survey, based on responses from more than half the councils in England and Wales, are:

- More than twice as many councils in the North as in the South use computers to provide better and quicker information to their residents. The figures are 40 per cent compared with 18 per cent.
- Delivery of services, particularly in housing and social services, has been greatly decentralized; 75 per cent of metropolitan districts had neighbourhood offices in 1988 against 20 per cent in 1980.
- Progress in involving users of services in their management, and in the devolution of

political decision-making to local level, has been disappointingly slow.

Despite some devolution of council financial management, nearly three-quarters still fail to achieve this. Conservatives remain "market leader" in decentralized resource management but Labour councils are catching up fast.

In terms of devolution of services and power, however, the Conservatives emerge badly. By 1988, 81.5 per cent of Labour authorities had introduced a degree of decentralization in services (63 per cent in 1980) compared with 50 per cent for the Alliance, as it then was (40 per cent), and 53.1 per cent for the Conservatives (53.1 per cent).

Similarly, although the Conservative Government's interest in the involvement of users in the delivery of services is expressed in the 1987 housing and education Bills, this is not reflected in Conservative-controlled councils.

Whether measured in formal consultative arrangements, joint management of services or direct control by users, Conservatives performed worse than Labour, by a factor of as much as three. *Challenge of Change in Local Government* (Inlogov, £9).

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PSA criticized for sitting on £130m backlog of repairs

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Property Services Agency is sitting on a £130 million backlog of essential repairs to government buildings, the National Audit Office disclosed yesterday.

That figure covers only top priority work on buildings that are unsafe, unhealthy, or rapidly deteriorating.

In a damning report riddled with criticisms of the agency, the audit office acknowledges that government underfunding is the underlying problem. It also blames the often obstructive and uncooperative attitude of the agency's client departments in Whitehall and suggests that inefficient management of the 8,000-property civil estate is squandering huge amounts of public money.

The audit office discloses that the PSA's reputation for looking after buildings is now so poor that landlords are becoming reluctant to lease it property.

In at least two cases, tenancies were refused because the agency was not regarded as a satisfactory tenant.

Government departments considered their accommodation to be "drab and in poor condition".

In a number of cases, landlords had to start legal action to force the PSA to maintain and decorate properties. In 1985-86, the agency was obliged to pay landlords dilapidation charges of £700,000 when vacating buildings, and in 1986-87, the figure was £1.5 million.

According to the report, the agency divides its maintenance work into four categories, with its first priority consisting of "unavoidable" work to meet statutory obligations.

Government spending restrictions meant that in 1986-87, only 80 per cent of top priority work was funded. No priority two, three or four work was undertaken.

After a thorough review of the problem, the agency has secured extra government funds for maintenance which "should be sufficient to get close to halting the growth of the backlog in 1988-89 and enabling some inroads to be made into it in the following years".

However, the audit office also noted that the agency underspent its maintenance funds by £6.9 million last year. The report cited Moor

House, Liverpool, as an example of sustained maintenance underfunding. Civil Servants working there had been complaining since 1978. In 1984, the agency investigated and erected scaffolding around the building because of the risk to the public of falling tiles and masonry.

That meant the building lost its Priority One status, so no funding was available for further work. The scaffolding cost £20,000 a year to hire. Repairs, now finally being undertaken, will cost £260,000.

The PSA strongly favoured freehold ownership of properties, the report said, but 62 per cent of the civil estate was leased, a percentage barely changed over 15 years.

In a clear attempt to preempt the audit office report, the Government published an efficiency study pointing to weaknesses in the agency's performance on Tuesday. The agency said it would implement recommendations in the study.

National Audit Office Property Services Agency: Management of the Civil Estate (Stationery Office; £5.90).

Line of officers held jail rioters at bay



All that remained of a gymnasium at Haverigg prison, Cumbria, after Sunday's rioting (Photograph: Barry Greenwood).

By Peter Davenport

The full extent of the riot damage to Haverigg prison was disclosed yesterday as the senior official appointed by the Home Secretary to prepare an urgent report arrived to begin his investigation.

Mr Gordon Lakes, deputy director general of the Prison Service, revealed that damage caused by prisoners was estimated at £750,000. But the cost of replacing buildings would mean a much higher bill.

Journalists yesterday toured the

category C prison on the Cumbrian coast to see the scale of the damage caused by about 100 prisoners, from a total population of 515 Haverigg inmates, during four hours of rioting on Sunday evening.

The blackened shells of dozens of buildings and roads littered with broken glass and debris showed that the confrontation had been more violent and serious than had been thought.

At the culmination of the disturbances about 100 prisoners swept through the grounds, wrecking build-

ings, until they were confronted by 50 prison officers barring their way to the main gate about 50 yards away. They held the line for almost two hours under a hail of missiles.

Although 25 inmates escaped and three were still at large yesterday it was clear the officers' action prevented a larger breakout.

Yesterday Mr Lakes said he would investigate whether smuggled illegal drugs or alcohol had played any part in the riot.

So far this year 22 Haverigg prisoners have been charged under

internal disciplinary rules with drug-related offences involving soft drugs. It was indicated that up to 50 prisoners had been identified as taking part in the riot.

Mr Lakes intends to produce an interim report by the weekend but will remain at Haverigg for two more weeks to produce the full report.

He said of reports that the riot was sparked off by the governor's order that prisoners should remove pin-up posters from the walls of their rooms that he was "not entirely satisfied" that was the case.

Hostile bids 'take jobs of thousands'

By Roland Rudd

Thousands of jobs in manufacturing will be lost if the Government does not act to stop foreign multinationals making hostile bids in the run-up to 1992, the Labour Party said yesterday.

Mr Tony Blair, the party's front bench trade and industry spokesman, believes the Government's refusal to intervene in the hostile bids for the beleaguered Rowntree confectionery company will expose whole sectors of Britain's manufacturing industry to foreign takeovers.

"Scores of foreign companies want a foothold in the EEC before the creation of a single market in 1992", he said. "Britain is the only EEC country which allows them to act with impunity."

The Government has rejected pleas from the Transport and General Workers' Union to require Nestlé and Suchard, the Swiss companies, making bids for Rowntree, to

give job guarantees on the ground that British companies are free to make similar bids in Europe.

Mr Blair said, however, that he could find no evidence of a British firm making a hostile bid in the EEC, the United States or Japan over the past two years.

At a press conference before the Commons debate on Rowntree, he said the total value of last year's 134 British acquisitions in Europe was £1.25 billion — half the total value of the Nestlé bid for Rowntree. No British bid was hostile.

The Labour Party and the unions fear that wholesale restructuring programmes will follow foreign takeovers of British companies. They say if the decision-making process moves abroad British jobs will be the first to go.

In the short term Mr Bob Harrison, TGWU national secretary for the food and drink group, said he feared that up to 25,000 jobs throughout the industry could be affected by hostile takeovers.

Delon's Delacroix set to sell for £600,000

Alain Delon, the French actor, is to sell a dramatic painting by Eugene Delacroix at Sotheby's, London, on June 21. Painted in the nineteenth-century French artist's distinctive wild style, it shows an Arab horseman at the gallop, brandishing his sword as he leans from the saddle.

It was bought by Delon for £49,000 at Sotheby's, London, in 1971. Now the estimate is £600,000. Edgar Allan Poe's *Tamerlane and Other Poems*, a rare first edition of his first book dated 1827, when he was aged 18, fetched \$286,000 (£156,370) at Sotheby's books and manuscripts sale in New York on Tuesday.

At the same sale, Saul Bellow raised £36,085 for four autographed notebooks containing his first draft of *Mr Sammler's Planet*. It was a record for a manuscript by a living American author.

At Phillips in Scotland, a first edition of *The Beano* from 1938 fetched £825, even without its "giveaway Whoopie mask". According to the

SALEROOM

by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

suction house, no one has ever sold one with the mask, as readers ripped them out to wear. If one could be found, the ensemble would fetch about £2,000.

The collection of antiquities amassed by Henning Thron-Holst, a Norwegian business magnate and collector who died in 1980, was dispersed at Christie's London yesterday. Top lot, at £132,000, was an Attic vase showing Odysseus bound to his ship's mast.

A New York dealer paid £99,000 (upper estimate £60,000) for a bronze head of the emperor Antoninus Pius.

In Amsterdam, Christie's sold its third consignment of decorative arts by Gerrit Thomas Rietveld. It was probably the last, due to a drying up of the source, the Dutch architect's descendants.

Tea firm fined £5,000

Bai Lin tea, one of the products marketed by Mr Peter Foster, former friend of the model Miss Samantha Fox, is worthless as a slimming aid, Warwick Crown Court ruled yesterday.

Slimweight UK Ltd, the Solihull-based company run by Mr Foster, was found guilty of five charges under the Trade Descriptions Act for making false claims about the tea.

Judge Harrison-Hall fined

the company, which has gone into liquidation, a total of £5,000.

Mr Malcolm Lee, QC, prosecuting, said the Inland Revenue had "more than a passing interest" in the company, which made £2.3 million from its tea sales.

Mr Foster, aged 25, and his mother Luigina, both of Hadley Wood, north London, have fled the country. Warrants have been issued for their arrest.

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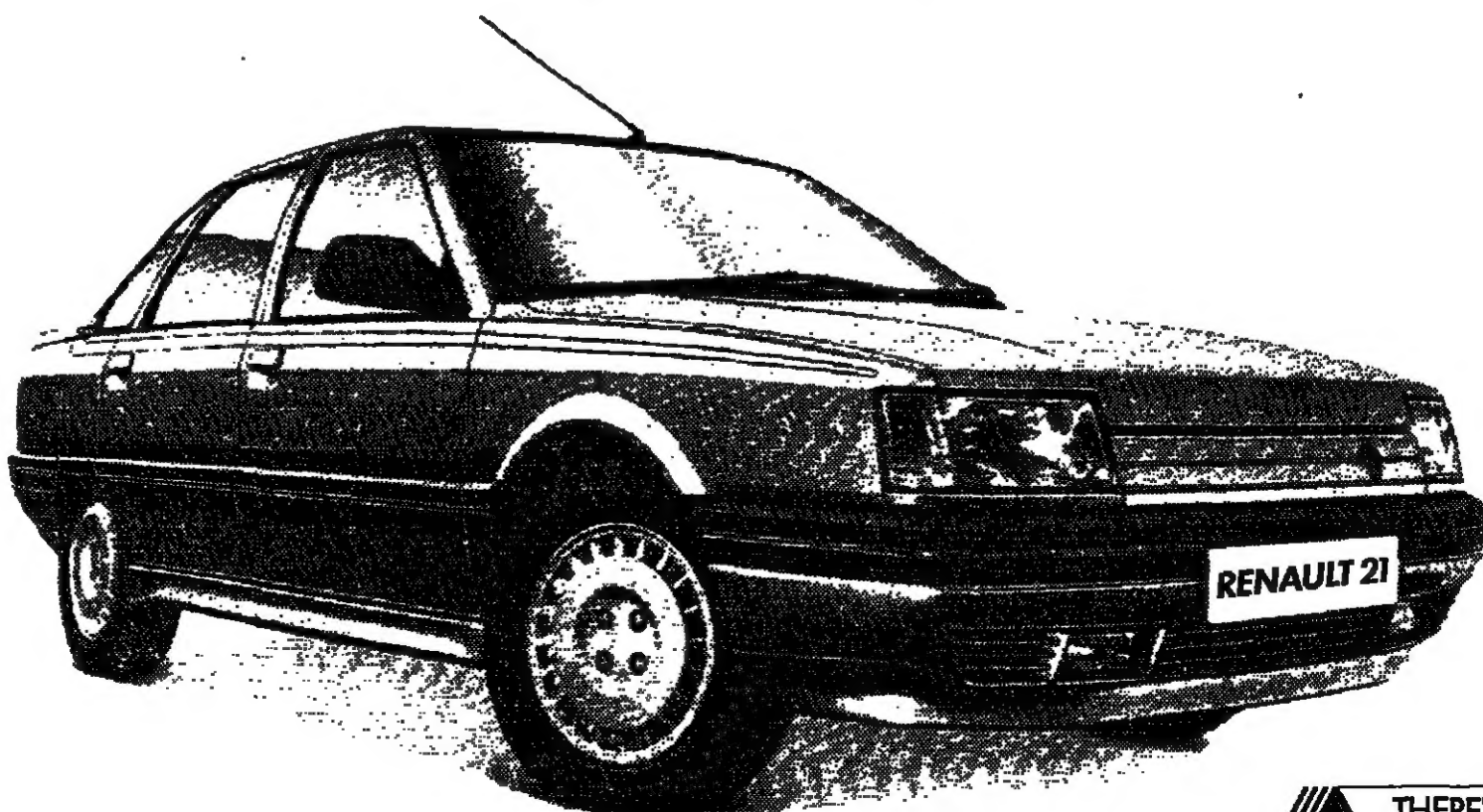
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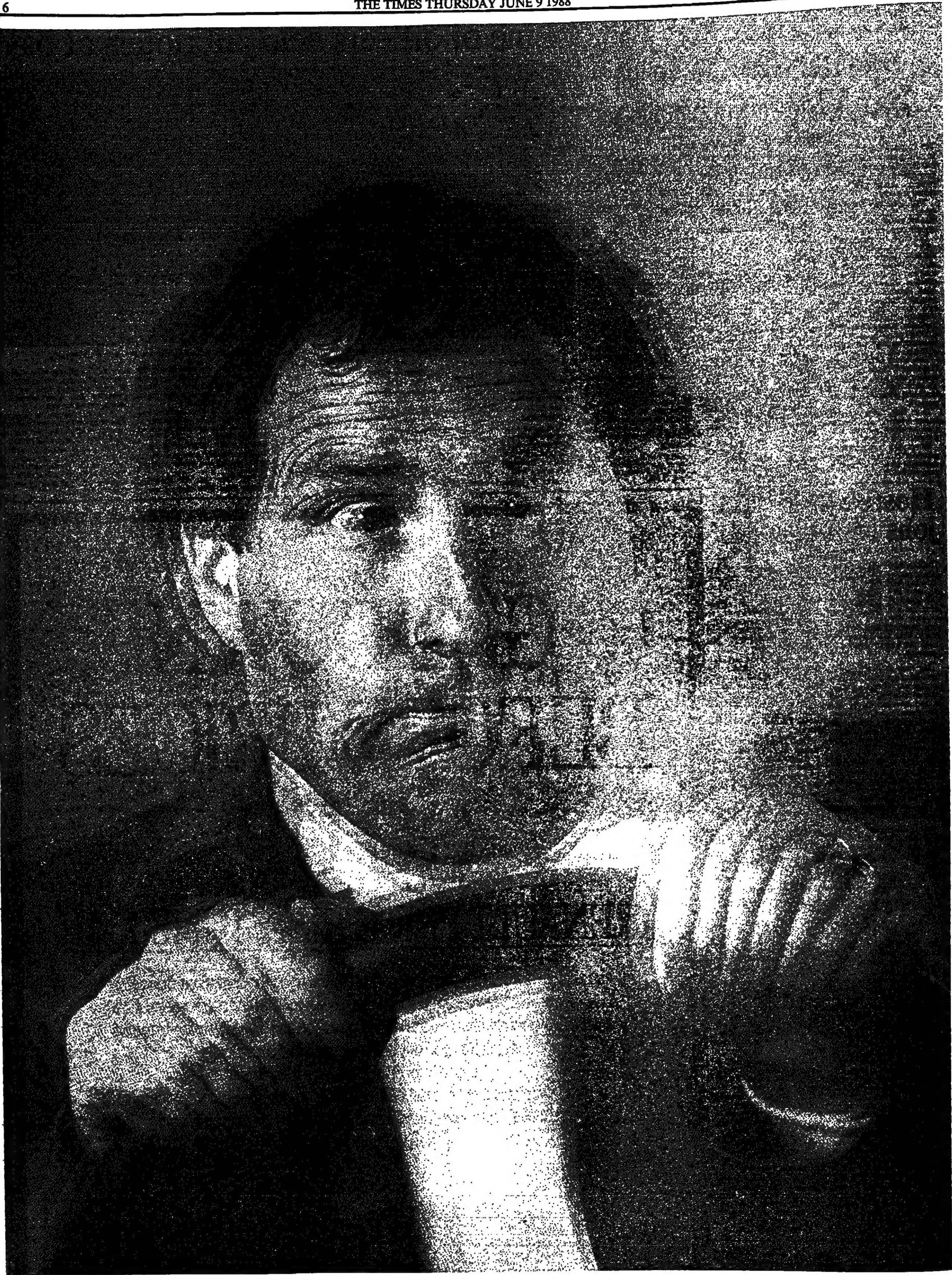
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Bush camp in gloom as his campaign falters in California

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The uncontested victories of Vice-President George Bush on Tuesday in the Republican primaries could not conceal the increasingly gloomy news for him and his campaign that his candidacy is in deep trouble.

Not only have the polls put him far behind Mr Michael Dukakis in the presidential race, but he is now in danger of losing the key state of California, which is considered essential to a Republican victory in November.

Mr Bush, acknowledging he was now the underdog, insisted he would soon dominate the news again and had plenty of time to overtake his Democratic opponent.

In interviews over the past two days, he appeared anxious to placate the disillusioned Republican right, disgraced by President Reagan over the results of the Moscow summit, and said that he would launch a "vicious assault" on the pollsters who show him trailing the Massachusetts governor.

But California Republicans report a series of danger signals for Mr Bush. He has failed to stir influential conservative activists in President Reagan's home state.

The Vice-President is being forced to choose between environmentalists, whom he is now courting, and blue-collar voters, who put jobs before "green" issues and are swinging to the Democrats.

and he is trying to emerge from the President's shadow, but may have to turn to him for help in his floundering California campaign.

Mr Robert Naylor, the state Republican chairman, was reported as saying yesterday: "Conservative juices aren't flowing for Bush the way they did for Goldwater or Reagan, no question."

Party workers also doubted whether Republican activists would campaign for Mr Bush with much enthusiasm this autumn and whether they would turn out in sufficient numbers. Attempts are being made to persuade the Vice-

President to spend his summer in California, but so far he appears intent on going to his usual summer home in Maine.

Mr Bush is trying to capitalize on his new-found opposition to unpopular plans for oil-drilling off the Californian coast, and his success on Monday in getting the Interior Department to suspend plans to lease 1.1 million acres off the northern coast for oil and gas exploration.

But he is also eager to establish his conservative credentials and is trying to build bridges to the Califor-

nian right. Mr Lee Atwater, his campaign manager, held a secret meeting on Monday to see how conservative activists could be brought into the campaign and has consulted veteran Reagan advisers from California, such as Mr Ed Rollins and Mr Lyn Nofziger.

But Mr Bush has angered the right by dismissing national activists, such as Mr Richard Viguerie and Mr Howard Phillips, as "kooks" on the fringe.

Mr Bush backtracked on television on Tuesday, saying that he was not attacking the party's right wing but merely "lowering the boom" on two individuals who were "way off on the extreme".

The Vice-President's campaign has long insisted that the White House could not be won without carrying California. But with Mr Dukakis now showing a 16-point lead in the polls there, Mr Atwater has begun suggesting strategies for a victory without California, which has further alarmed the state's Republicans.

As voters went to the polls on Tuesday, Mr Bush insisted that his difference with Mr Dukakis would soon emerge. And he threatened to take the "low road" in negative political advertising if necessary, comparing his support of the death penalty for drug lords with his opponent's soft treatment of criminals, his insistence on ruling out tax



Best of enemies: Mr Jackson, one of the Democratic contenders (right), exchanging a friendly word with Mr Bush, the Republican front-runner, at a television forum in Los Angeles while both were campaigning in the California primaries.

increases with Mr Dukakis's refusal to do so.

Backing Dukakis: Senator Paul Simon of Illinois formally abandoned his suspended presidential campaign yesterday and announced that he was throwing his support behind Governor Dukakis, who is expected to gather support from most of his former rivals in the next few days.

Senator Simon said he would vote for Mr Dukakis at the Atlanta convention next month, and was releasing the 175 delegates he won during his campaign. "The primaries and caucuses are now history. The verdict is in," he said. He would do everything to advance the Dukakis candidacy before the convention.

Mr Bruce Babbitt, an early casualty of the primary races, announced on Tuesday that he, too, would support the Massachusetts governor. And Congressman Richard Gephardt, who won the Iowa caucuses in February, but later dropped out of the race after "Super Tuesday", was also due to add his support at a joint appearance yesterday

with Mr Dukakis, who stopped in St Louis on his flight back to Boston.

Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee, who suspended his campaign after the New York primary, is expected to follow suit and support the inevitable nominee.

With Mr Dukakis winning an estimated total of 329 delegates on Tuesday, the latest count puts him comfortably over the total of 2,081 needed for the Democratic nomination. He now has 2,146. Mr Jackson has 1,074, Senator Gore 339, Senator

Simon 175, and 330 are uncommitted. With the release of Mr Simon and the delegates, Mr Dukakis will have an overall majority.

On the Republican side, Mr Bush won a further 265 delegates in the four primaries on Tuesday — all those at stake. He now has 1,682 of the total of 2,277 who will attend the New Orleans convention — far more than the 1,139 needed for nomination. Only some 224 uncommitted delegates and 73 for the Rev Pat Robertson remain to be thrown to Mr Bush.

The lack of foreign currency has forced Tanzania to keep tight controls on the export of profits. The effect has been to hold down investment and limit opportunities for growth. It has also brought complaints from Britons who lived in Tanzania that they have been unable to bring home their savings. Britain will be raising the problems of pensioners.

Tanzania's recovery is seen as a race to create opportunities for a population expanding at 4.1 per cent a year. But the population is still small — estimated at 23 million — for a country nearly four times the size of Britain, and the land has huge potential.

Tanzania is the fifth largest market for British goods in sub-Saharan Africa, but imports from Tanzania slumped from £40 million in 1986 to £26 million.

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America's leading matron fights to get the pundits out of her hair

From Christopher Thomas, Washington



Mrs Bush: Fortnight and can be very pushy

People say it all the time, and it never stops hurting: Mrs Barbara Bush looks so much older than her husband. With her thick, white hair, her towering presence and deeply lined face, she cuts a matronly figure and evidently wishes desperately that she did not.

She knows people are constantly surprised by the way she looks. "I tell you the truth, it hurts," she said. A television interviewer upset her deeply the other day with the question: "Your husband is a man of the 1980s and you're a woman of the 40s. What do you say to that?" The interviewer was "lucky I didn't burst into tears", she recalled.

At 62, she is two years younger than her husband, Vice-President

George Bush, who looks extremely slim alongside her. More than anything, her white hair ages her. Every time she appears on television, she is bombarded with letters asking her to dye it, which makes her "mad as the dickens".

She says: "People who worry about their hair all the time are boring. I have washed it every day of my life and probably washed all the colour out. But I can exercise and play tennis and never have to say, 'I'm sorry I can't do that, I just got my hair done'."

Mrs Bush is often described as a formidable personality. She is forthright and can be very pushy. She got into deep trouble when she said she knew a word to describe Mrs Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic vice-presidential candidate in 1984. "I can't say it, but it rhymes with

rich," she declared. Later she called Mrs Ferraro to apologize, saying that the word she was thinking of was "witch".

Her special interest is tackling illiteracy, a campaign she would pursue as First Lady. "Everything I worry about would be better if more people could read, write and comprehend," she said.

She likes to spend weekends at the large family home set in 11 acres in Kennebunkport, Maine, but most of her time in the past few months has been spent campaigning for her husband, criss-crossing the country with a family slide show designed to give a human touch to Mr Bush's cold public personality.

Audiences are usually enthralled by the show. They see Barbara and George in bed, wearing pyjamas, with some of their grandchildren

tearing about the room. "That's George with Gandhi. Here he is with Gorbachov. Look how small Hirohito looks alongside him." She said she hoped that the slide show demonstrated "that his wife loves him and has enormous respect for him, which I do".

Like her husband, Mrs Bush was born into wealth. Her father was publisher of the McCall Corporation and she was raised in the wealthy New York suburb of Rye. Mr Bush was the son of a Wall Street banker, and went off to Texas to make his own small fortune in the oil business. The couple are not phenomenally rich — their assets are put at a comparatively modest \$2 million (£1.1 million).

Mrs Bush bristles at suggestions that she and her husband are out of touch with ordinary people because

of their privileged backgrounds. "We were comfortable, don't misunderstand. But we weren't kings in those days." She also bristles at suggestions that her husband lacks a forceful personality. "I do not think he is boring. I think he is very charismatic."

The image she likes to portray is that of a steady, loyal and dutiful wife. She is certainly a great deal better at campaigning than her aloof husband, conveying a sense of candour and intimacy. Her speciality is a dry, self-deprecating wit.

A daughter, Robin, died at the age of four with leukaemia. That led to years of voluntary work by Mrs Bush with paraplegics and cancer patients. "I cleaned their fingernails. I read their letters to them. I'm good at that. It's a terrible thing to say, I know, but I am good at that."

WORLD ROUNDUP

Police in Peking thwart students

Hundreds of police halted a planned demonstration in Peking yesterday as the authorities took swift action to halt growing student unrest (A Correspondent writes).

Students arriving hesitantly in small groups to stage a rally in support of human rights and against corruption had to admit defeat as the police cordoned off Tiananmen Square. The night before the authorities had announced, through loudspeakers and newspapers, that any unauthorized demonstrations were illegal.

It is not yet clear how many demonstrators turned up, but it seems that some heeded the warnings, perhaps remembering the backlash and political crisis which resulted from student unrest in late 1986 and early 1987. Student activity in the last week, however, does not suggest any lack of spirit. On June 2 some 2,000 students marched to Tiananmen Square protesting at corruption and lawlessness after the murder of a Peking University student, Mr Cai Qingfeng. At the same time "big character" posters criticizing the leadership appeared on the university campus.

Pretoria warns press

Johannesburg — A nationwide strike involving at least a million black workers ended its third and final day yesterday as the Government moved to curb newspaper coverage of the effectiveness of the protest, organized by the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the smaller National Council of Trade Unions (Michael Hornsby writes).

Late on Tuesday, newspaper editors received warnings from the police that it was an infringement of the state of emergency regulations to report on the success or otherwise of the stay-away or on intimidation of strike-breakers. Observance of the stay-away flagged during the second and third days, and barely touched the crucial mining sector.

Parliament, page 10

Britons quit Somalia

Nairobi — Twenty-five Britons were among more than 40 expatriates who arrived here yesterday from Mogadishu, following the Somali Government's ultimatum that 160 expatriates evacuated from the war-torn city of Hargeisa last weekend by the United Nations should return to northern Somalia or leave the country (Andrew Buckoke writes).

One of the Britons said nobody was injured "apart from one who fell off a motorbike and one who trod on a scorpion." More than 100 evacuees, including five Britons, were believed to be still in Mogadishu yesterday afternoon.

Hijacker expelled

Manila (AFP) — The Philippines Government yesterday deported a Japanese Red Army member and said the terrorist group was engaged in secret work which could include a plot to disrupt the Seoul Olympics. Mr Hiroshi Sensui was arrested in a hospital here while recuperating from plastic surgery. He was serving a life sentence when he fled from plastic surgery. He was serving a life sentence when he fled from plastic surgery. He was serving a life sentence when he fled from plastic surgery.

Tribute to Dreyfus

Paris — The last act in the official rehabilitation of Captain Alfred Dreyfus will be played out today in the Tuilleries gardens with the unveiling of a statue commemorating the French army officer falsely accused of spying for the Germans almost a century ago (Philip Jacobson writes).

The bronze, by a sculptor known simply as Tim, depicts a uniformed Captain Dreyfus standing proudly, head up, one hand grasping the broken sword that was the symbol of his hand degradation. Completed about a year ago, it has had some

Polling in Sri Lanka

Rebel threat to voters

From Michael Hamlyn, Colombo

A furious campaign of murder comes to a climax today in the south of this strife-racked island republic.

Voters go to the polls to elect a provincial council for the South in hustings that have been violently opposed by a left-wing nationalist organization because, it says, the elections are part of an Indian-imposed settlement of the country's northern ethnic crisis.

The militants of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, which translates as People's Liberation Front, have threatened to cut off any hand that casts a vote. To enforce their opposition to the polls, which have been successfully held so far in six of the nine provinces that were established after the Indo-Sri Lankan peace accord signed a year ago, they have killed 22 candidates, mainly from the government party, the United National Party, and from the opposition United Socialist Alliance.

Three independents have also been murdered.

The latest killing took place yesterday morning in the little southern town of Akmed, near the port of Galle, where a United Socialist Alliance candidate died in a blast of gunfire.

Official figures show that 178 people have died in

terrorist incidents in the South since the middle of January. They include party leaders, as well as rank and file, and a number of innocent bystanders — especially the children of politicians who have been in the way of the bullets. The figure excludes deaths in the North and East, where Tamil terrorists are still conducting their campaign to establish an independent Tamil state. The favourite weapons of the Janatha killer squads are the *galkattas*, home-made pistols firing 12-bore shotgun cartridges.

Today's elections are in the Sinhala Buddhist heartland of the country, where Janatha activity has been at its highest. They have been separated from polls in the rest of the island so that 15,000 troops and 10,000 police could be drafted in to try to guard the voters. Helicopters are to be pressed into service to fly in poll officials and ballot boxes from remote areas to avoid their being ambushed on the roads or railways.

Despite the threats there is expected to be a reasonable turnout. In similar elections held last week in the Central and the Western Provinces, the turnout was about 50 per cent, despite a Janatha threat to kill the first 10 voters to show up at each polling station.

Partly the reason is that, despite the mayhem, Janatha is recognized as not having sufficient strength to carry out all its threats. Public transport also ran during last week's voting, despite Janatha's call for a general strike.

Many shops, however, closed, and train drivers are still refusing to take their locomotives out at night, following the death of one of their colleagues.

Police and soldiers went round yesterday forcing fearful shopkeepers to raise their shutters and carry on trading. But a procession of worried election officials went round to the government offices in Matara to protest that they were not able to get any food. The village headmen, *gramasevakas*, normally cook for visiting officials, but this time they too are under the threat of death from Janatha.

The Sri Lankan Freedom Party led by the former Prime Minister, Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike, is boycotting the present polls, because of its opposition to the Indo-Sri Lankan accord. As a result, President Jayewardene's ruling party is virtually getting a clean sweep of control of the new provincial bodies, although the Socialists have given it a tough time in one or two areas.

Anti-Semitic outbursts fuel fears of Russian pogrom

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The elaborate celebrations to mark the millennium of Christianity in Russia have been marred by widespread rumours of a planned pogrom against Jews and a series of anti-Semitic incidents that have induced a level of unease in the Jewish community not experienced for many years.

Jewish sources in Moscow said yesterday that tension was now so acute that many Jews were afraid to allow their children out alone.

One of the main causes of the atmosphere of near-panic among many Jewish families — long used to living in a society where anti-Jewish feelings traditionally run high — has been a crude pamphlet, first spotted on the wall of a Moscow cultural club last month and distributed in different parts of the city.

"Comrades Russian patriots! How long can we put up with the dirty Jews brazenly penetrating our entire society, especially in profitable places? Think about it," said the pamphlet, signed by an anonymous group which called itself "Death to the Jews Organization."

The pamphlet went on with ominous overtones of Nazi Germany: "How can we accept that the dirty ones have made our wonderful country into a Jewish mob? Why

should we — outstanding, intelligent, beautiful Slavs — consider Jews among us to be a normal phenomenon? Why should Jewish cattle be able to acquire Russian surnames and sign Russian as their nationality as do these dirty, stinking Jews, hiding under such heroic and proud names as Russians? Russia to the Russians!"

Western diplomatic sources acknowledged that there had been a significant worsening of the anti-Semitic atmosphere, although they pointed out that there was disagreement about its exact causes. Mrs Tanya Ziman, a prominent Jewish refusenik, said that the new threats were an attempt by anti-Semitic Russians to use the Orthodox Church celebrations as a background for stirring up suppressed resentment.

Church officials have condemned the anti-Semitic resurgence and said that it has spoiled the atmosphere of the millennium. Although there has been no government state-

ment on the subject, official concern over the new wave of anti-Semitism has also surfaced in the Soviet press.

A number of prominent Moscow Jews have blamed the ultra-nationalist *Pamyat* (Memory) organization for stirring up the new campaign of hatred. The group has held meetings with blatantly anti-Semitic content in different parts of the country.

The threat of violence against Jews has not been restricted to Moscow. In Kiev, militia officers were reported as telling the heads of state enterprises to warn their workers that "Jewish and Jewish-looking people" should not go on to the streets during the early part of June.

In addition to those who pin the blame mainly on *Pamyat* — whose leader, Mr Dimitri Vasiliev, has denied that pogroms are being organized — others believe that many people are jealous of Jews who have enjoyed a degree of financial success in the new co-operative businesses which are beginning to flourish.

Mrs Judith Lurie, another prominent Jewish refusenik, said that by a stroke of unfortunate irony the Gorbachov policy of *glasnost* was now encouraging anti-Semites who had earlier feared to voice their views in public.

New cardinals herald sweeping Vatican reform

From Roger Boyes, Rome

The Pope is preparing a shake-up of the Vatican hierarchy that will further dilute Italian influence in the Curia, reinvigorate the Holy See's diplomacy in the Third World and Eastern Europe, and streamline decision making in the Church's dusty corridors.

The changes, say Vatican insiders, will be announced at the beginning of next month. The first step will come on June 29, when the Pope appoints 25 new cardinals. The promotions will boost significantly the number in the College of Cardinals. The Conclave (those cardinals under 80 entitled to select a new Pope) now exceeds 120 for the first time.

The point of the move, however, is to reflect that

America) is the growth area for Roman Catholicism. If the Conclave were to be summoned tomorrow, 59 of the 121 voting cardinals would be non-European, and the share of Italian cardinals is only 19 per cent. The Polish Pope might well be succeeded by another foreigner.

The changes in the College of Cardinals are only a beginning. The Pope's right-hand man remains Cardinal Agostino Casaroli who, as Secretary of State, is effectively the Vatican Prime Minister. This wily architect of Vatican *Ospolotik* — once dubbed the "Henry Kissinger of the Holy See" — is 75 years old, but the Pope made clear at the weekend that he is needed to oversee the coming changes.

Cardinal Casaroli's deputies, his "interior minister" Archbishop Edoardo Martini of Rome and his "foreign

minister", the gifted diplomat Archbishop Achille Silvestrini, will both be elevated to cardinal this month. They have not been given new jobs, but will be important in the

organizational reshuffle. The successor to the "interior ministry" will be a doughty Australian, Archbishop Edward Cassidy, aged 64, formerly the Pope's man in The Netherlands. His tasks are expected to include a clean-up in the Vatican's management and costs.

The new "foreign minister" is an experienced crisis man-

ager, the Italian Archbishop Angelo Sodano, aged 61, who as papal nuncio in Chile since 1977 has been trying to build bridges with the opposition to President Pinochet. He has

successfully carried out several confidential missions for the Pope.

These appointments are to set the tune of the organizational changes within the Curia. For some time, the Pope had been impatient with the illogical hierarchy of departments in the Vatican. The top rung of the organizational ladder is the congregations (in

charge, for example, of theological doctrine or creating saints), followed by secretariats, councils, commissions, committees, tribunals, administrations and offices.

Vatican reformers say that this system is partly outdated. For example, the cause of Christian unity — above all, cementing links with the Orthodox churches — is regarded as a prime focus of this papacy, yet it is run only by a secretariat, not a congregation.

The problems of the Catholic laity were the subject of an important synod last October, yet the relevant department is only a council. In the protocol-conscious Vatican, these distinctions get in the way of policy making.

The Vatican is abuzz with rumour. As the new cardinals make their way to Gamma-relli's, the papal tailors, to be measured up for the purple,

there is a palpable sense of excitement.

How deep will the changes go? Curial reform has been hedged for so many years that most observers are sceptical about a full-scale *terremoto* (earthquake). Rather, there will be an important realignment. In foreign affairs this means a more active mediation in crises affecting Catholic countries.

In domestic affairs, there may be a summer of changes. Archbishop Paul Marcinkus, passed over for the cardinal's hat yet again, is expected, at last, to give up his job as chief Vatican banker. But the reform may add up to little more than installing computers.

It is, as one clerical politician put it with customary clarity, all in the hands of the Pope, the inner circle of Vatican advisers, the budget planners and, of course, God.

Algiers summit focuses its spotlight on six months of violence in occupied territories

Uprising gets Arafat back to centre of Arab stage

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Just seven months ago Mr Yasser Arafat was sulking in his luxury hotel room in Amman, apparently unloved and unwanted by the leaders of the Arab world. From the moment he had arrived there for the Arab League summit, he had been made to feel out in the cold, with the PLO he leads shunted to the sidelines while a kind of Arab unity was forged over the Iran-Iraq war.

But this week in Algiers Mr Arafat has been at the centre of the current Arab League meeting. It has been called "the Intifada summit" after the Palestinian uprising because six months of violence in the occupied territories have put the Arab-Israeli conflict back at the centre of world attention.

The Intifada began six months ago when an Israeli truck slewed across the road and smashed into a line of cars packed with Arab workers. Four died and eight were seriously injured. The rumour spread that it was a deliberate accident designed to kill Arabs and two days later, on December 9, a demonstration began in Jabalyah camp. Three died when the Army opened fire

and the Intifada had its first "martyrs".

Since then at least one Palestinian has died every day. The official army total to the start of this month is 188 dead, of whom 152 were killed by soldiers and most of the rest by armed Israeli settlers. The unofficial Palestinian figure has now risen to 249 dead.

Baghdad (AFP) — President Saddam Hussein of Iraq has vowed to recapture all his country's territory occupied by Iranian forces, but has added that Iraq would push no farther than international borders. President Mubarak of Egypt was present during President Saddam Hussein's press conference on Tuesday evening. He returned to Cairo on Tuesday night.

It includes those who are said to have been beaten to death, overcome by tear gas or killed by electric shock while obeying army orders to climb pylons to remove Palestinian flags. These deaths are not included in the official figures.

The UN Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa) calculates that 202 have died, including a 19-year-old from Jabalyah who died yesterday morning from injuries received after he was arrested on Monday. The Army is investigating claims that he was beaten to death by soldiers.

On the Israeli side, one

soldier has been shot and killed and a teenage girl was accidentally killed by a settler who was guarding the hike she was on in the West Bank.

There have been atrocities committed by both sides. In the village of Kabatiya, near Jenin, hundreds of Arabs helped to lynch a suspected collaborator. He died slowly

tarnished Israel's image, most importantly in the United States which has in the past never reduced its \$3 billion (£1.65 billion) in annual aid. But Mr Richard Shifter, the American Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights, gave a clear warning that cuts could now come.

Army records show that 316 soldiers and 210 Israeli civilians have been injured. Some have lost eyes, been seriously burnt or had fractured skulls.

The army figures also show that 1,561 Palestinians have been injured. Most hospitals in the occupied territories have records showing they have treated at least 1,000 people each so far. Unrwa clinics have treated another 5,590. Given that many of those injured never go to hospital, the total is almost certainly more than 10,000. Babies have lost eyes, and hundreds of teenagers have been crippled for life.

At the superpower summit in Washington last October, the Middle East did not even get on to the agenda. Last week in Moscow it was a priority subject.

The unrest has stopped the growing feeling in world cir-



cles that the occupation was unpleasant but acceptable and that the status quo provided the least difficult solution. Worldwide pressure is now building for a solution.

The Intifada has also succeeded in changing the world's attitude to the Palestinians. Whereas Israel used to be seen as a brave David fighting the Goliath of the Arab world, the roles have now been swapped.

The world's conscience has been smitten so far the tune of \$26.6 million in extra aid for Unrwa.

Inside Israel the unrest has led to soul-searching on the left by people who are shocked by what is happening. On the right it has led to a stiffening of resolve and a greater honesty about the ultimate goal of keeping all of the territories for ever. Whereas the Novem-

ber elections had looked to be doomed to be a re-run of the dead heat in 1984, the chances are increasing for a narrow but working majority for a coalition of the right.

The prisoners of this "war" are so numerous now that new camps and detention centres have had to be opened. Some estimates suggest that up to 80 per cent of the real instigators are now in prison.

King Hussein of Jordan and Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan al-Nabayan of the United Arab Emirates consulting together during the Arab League summit yesterday. King Hussein gave unconditional political support to the PLO and asked the oil-rich Arab states to subsidize the struggle against Israel. He disclaimed any ambition to restore Jordanian rule in the West Bank.

Duarte crisis adds to El Salvador's growing problems

From James LeMoine, San Salvador

Survivors of the democratic left in El Salvador gathered in the lounge of the Camino Real Hotel at the weekend to discuss the prospects for peace and increased democracy in their country.

They met in the eighth year of a civil war that has killed 70,000 Salvadoreans. As their meeting came to a close, the lights went out because of rebel sabotage, bombs exploded in the distance, and army helicopters hovered over the city streets.

The Government is struggling. President Duarte is dying from cancer, his Christian Democratic Party is split into two factions, the civil war waged by Marxist rebels remains in full swing, the right-wing opposition is growing in strength, and political killings are increasing.

Señor Duarte's illness is only the most dramatic sign that El Salvador may again be entering a period of transition. Its course will be affected by a new US President, a new Salvadoran leader, and the political participation of some left-wing parties. The key question will be whether the Government and the rebels negotiate or keep fighting.

"I sense that all the actors feel this is a period of definition," said Señor Rubén Zamora, a rebel official who has returned here. "We will find out what is possible and what is not."

With more than \$3 billion (£1.7 billion) of American aid spent here already, El Salvador is one of the few places in the world where the United States is still actively trying to create a Third World capitalist democracy closely allied to American interests. But there is no certainty that that model will work here, where there seems to be a vacuum of political power and little vision for the future.

Some of the speakers at the conference had returned for the first time after eight years of exile. They all appeared uncertain of the political meaning of their presence. "Working in politics again in El Salvador is like swimming in a river full of crocodiles," said Señor Héctor Oquell, a senior rebel official. "Since there's

water you're able to swim, but you never know when one of the crocodiles is going to come and chop you up."

Such fear is part of the political life here. The cause is not hard to find. The killing of civilians by the rebels and the Army is rising sharply and the private right-wing killers are also newly active.

The Christian Democratic Party is widely seen as having failed to live up to its reformist promise. It is accused of being a well-meaning but corrupt and inefficient group incapable of changing the status quo.

The right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance Party is ascendant and could win the presidency next year, having defeated the Christian Democrats to take control of the legislature two months ago.

The right-wing Arena group may be a party in transition from an extreme anti-communist group, with close ties to the death squads, to a more moderate party with strong backing from conservative peasants and slum dwellers.

The Army, buoyed by its importance in the war and by American aid, is more politically sophisticated and more influential than ever. Senior army officers acknowledge privately that the war has reached a stalemate and that the Government is paralysed, but they say they do not want to take power in a coup.

American officials are divided. The optimists say that this is a testing, but unavoidable, passage in a decade-long transition to a more democratic society. The pessimists say that the American effort to defeat the rebels is failing.

The rebels have shown little capacity to attract new support and there is little prospect of a mass insurrection. Diplomats and army officers say it is possible that the rebels will offer to negotiate while mounting large attacks to demonstrate their strength.

There is little doubt that the pressure from the guerrillas has been the main stimulus for political change. But, as long as the war goes on, economic recovery and a lasting political consensus appear unlikely. (New York Times)

Belgian police row

Brussels — A public inquiry has been ordered into the activities of the Belgian gendarmerie, which has been accused of corruption, blackmail and political manipulation (Jonathan Braude writes). Mr Louis Tobback, the Interior Minister, acted in response to claims that the gendarmerie has infiltrated spies into the offices of the Volksunie, the Flemish nationalist group in the ruling five-party coalition. It is also accused of collecting information on leading politicians and trawling in homosexual circles for material with which to blackmail public figures.

Shrine respite

Delhi (Reuters) — The Indian Government has bowed to Punjab protests and postponed demolition of houses and shops to create a security zone around the Golden Temple shrine in Amritsar.

Aids death

Singapore (Reuters) — An Australian tourist died of an Aids-related disease and was cremated the next day. The swimming pool at the hotel where he stayed was drained as a precautionary measure.

Train toll up

Moscow (AFP) — The death toll from the train explosion at Azarnas, 250 miles east of here, has risen to 80.

Relief blocked

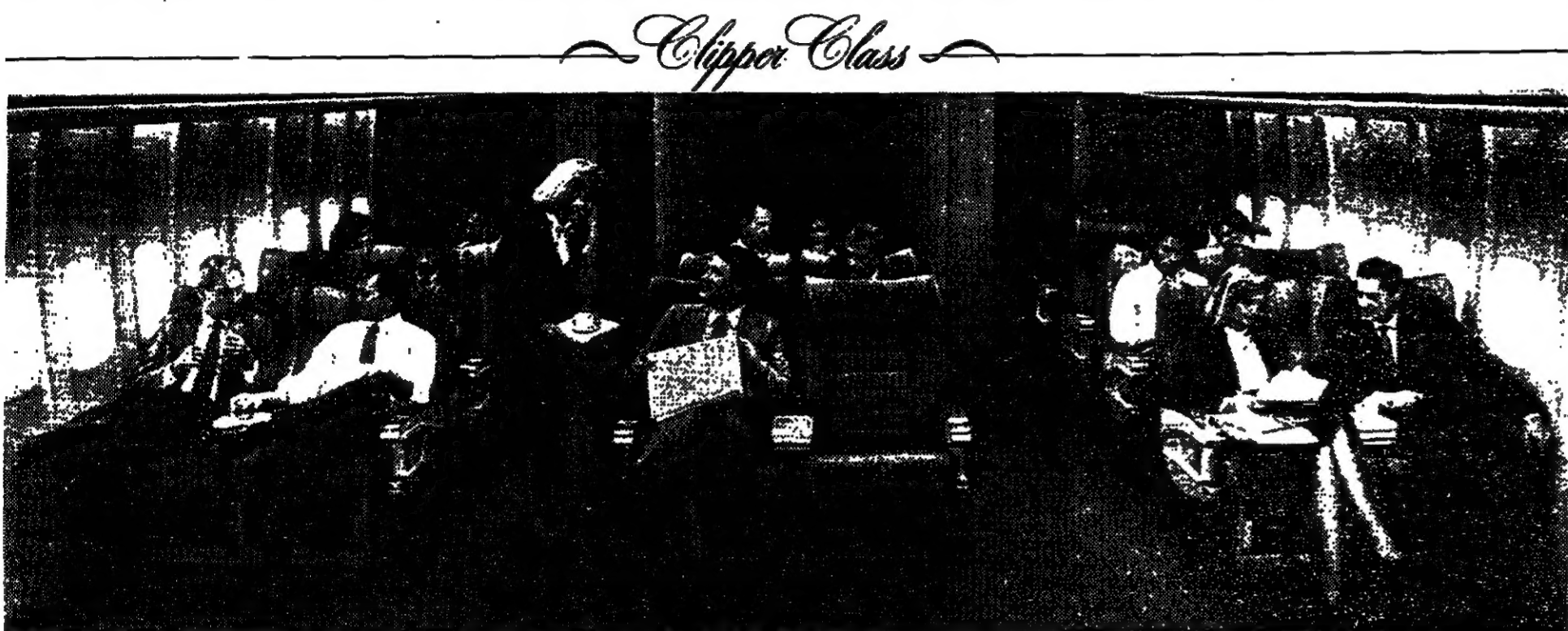
Lisbon (Reuters) — Mozambique's right-wing National Resistance guerrillas said in a statement released here that they were forbidding International Red Cross missions in some rebel-held areas.

Farm protest

Budapest (AFP) — Hungarian papers reported a farmers' demonstration for the first time, saying 2,000 wine-growers blocked a road at Kisokoc-rocs to protest at low prices.

Debt deferred

Geneva (Reuters) — The International Labour Organization has given Poland 20 years to pay £5 million in unpaid dues accumulated over eight years.



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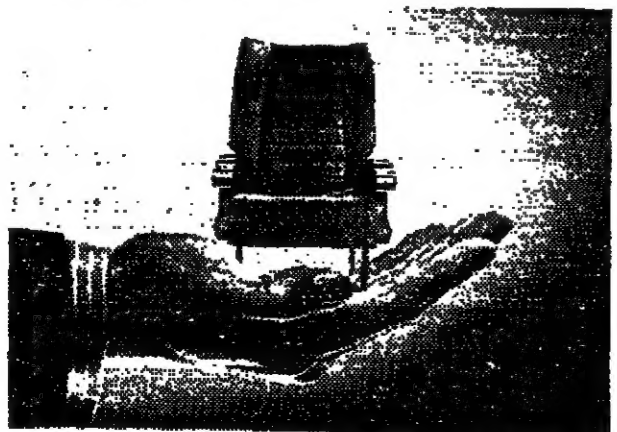
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French parliamentary elections

National Front holds key to outcome in 209 seats

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

To call M Jean-Marie Le Pen a good loser would probably offend him as much as the many French who loathe his person and his politics.

But as the leader of the National Front prepares for the near extinction of the party's presence in the National Assembly at Sunday's final round of parliamentary elections, he appears to view even the prospect of failing to hold a seat for himself with untypical equanimity.

Perhaps it is the bracing climate of Marseilles, his campaign headquarters these days. Many observers think that M Le Pen finds the political air of the National Front's main stronghold so agreeable that he will stay on to launch a new campaign to become mayor of France's second city next year.

On the other hand, he may have been reading *Le Monde*, a newspaper that could scarcely be more opposed to everything the National Front represents. In last Tuesday's edition, it published an exhaustive analysis of first-round voting returns which concluded that despite the apparent decline of the extreme right, M Le Pen's party holds the key to the outcome

in no less than 209 of the 455 constituencies still at stake (the rest of the 577 seats in the National Assembly were decided on the first turn). In the vast majority of these, National Front candidates failed to achieve the 12.5 per cent of the turnout required under France's revised electoral system to win through to the second and decisive round. But from the first *circonscription* in Ain to the sixth in Val-d'Oise, candidates of the conservative alliance will have to devise some way of attracting those who originally backed M Le Pen's party. The magic figure for power in the



M Le Pen: Next goal could be mayor of Marseilles.

National Assembly is 289 seats, and according to *Le Monde*'s number crunchers, the socialists and their left-wing allies — overwhelmingly the revived Communist Party, which has also concluded a tactical voting accord — already constitute a majority in 215 constituencies. The conservative alliance, which acquired 79 seats on the first poll, leads in 31 others.

Down in the Bouches-du-Rhône, which includes Marseilles, a formal deal was inevitable. Elsewhere, the accommodations will usually need to be more subtle: unwritten promises of closer co-operation in local politics, allocation of places on influential regional organizations, the outline of a strategic voting pact for the municipal and European elections coming up over the next 12 months.

Next Sunday's arithmetic is, of course, complicated by the startling 34.5 per cent figure for abstentions in the first round. With the publication of opinion polls now prohibited, it is impossible to forecast which way — if at all — the missing one third of the French electorate will vote. It

is also clear from the recent two-stage presidential election that support for the National Front in the opening round is by no means guaranteed to transfer automatically to the candidate of the right come the second turn (a 20 per cent swing or more to the socialists can reasonably be expected on Sunday). *Le Monde* believes there are at least 35 "undecided" constituencies in which any such movement of votes would elect a socialist deputy. But whatever recompense M Le Pen and his followers extract from this promising situation, the National Front leader (elected or not) will have achieved one of his most cherished objectives before the first vote has been counted. By forcing the Bouches-du-Rhône conservatives into a tactical alliance, which will almost certainly be emulated in different forms elsewhere in the country, he has made another foothold in the mainstream of the French right. What this means for future elections, argued a commentator in yesterday's edition of *Libération* is that M Le Pen, "the pariah of the extreme right", is now one of the conservative family.

Sisters share joy of surrogate baby



Maggie and Linda Kirkman proudly showing off their new baby, Alice. Linda, left, bore the child two and a half weeks ago, but Maggie is the genetic mother and hopes to adopt her.

Melbourne (Reuter) — Alice Kirkman, aged 2½ weeks, Australia's first surrogate baby born to sisters, appeared in public for the first time yesterday, with her genetic mother, Maggie, and the woman who bore her, Maggie's sister, Linda.

"I am pleased that I have a niece and my children are pleased they have a cousin," Linda Kirkman, aged 32, told a news conference as her sister, beside her, cradled the child. Doctors said they knew of only two comparable surrogacies, one in South Africa and another in the US.

Linda was implanted with an embryo, an egg from the mother fertilized with sperm from a donor at Melbourne's Monash University *in vitro* fertilization programme.

The case poses a legal dilemma for the families involved, since under Victorian state law Maggie, aged 40, and her husband, Severn, aged 42, will have to adopt the girl and may be deemed to be too old under the law.

Linda said she felt no maternal bond with the child since she had always known it was Maggie's egg, not her own. Maggie had had a hysterectomy, making artificial insemination impossible although she still ovulated.

The sisters, who are using their maiden name for the child to protect the privacy of their families, said they first thought of surrogacy at a family dinner two years ago.

Maggie said she knew the identity of the sperm donor.

Yugoslav regional tension

Slovene challenge puts pressure on a pampered Army

From Richard Bassett, Belgrade

Beneath the cool portico of the Belgrade Officers' Club, talk of economic crisis is remote. On a sweltering night, a new Ferrari is parked rakishly across the steps, violating with impunity every law in the Belgrade traffic policeman's all-too-large book.

In the moonlight, couples waiting for the last bus home gaze at the streamlined car in awe. Nothing highlights for them more vividly the privileges of the only fully integrated institution in Yugoslavia, the Army.

It has its own housing and its own hotels. More than any other force in the Balkans, it has been a pampered institution — above criticism and with its budgets accepted for decades without question. If its divisions were organized on a regimental system, their motto could be *Noli Me Tangere*.

Its officer corps, more than Belgrade — Editors of the Slovene youth magazine *Mladina* yesterday accused the authorities of "planting" military papers on three Slovenes arrested last week for possessing "secret military documents" (Richard Bassett writes).

Speaking to Serbian students in Belgrade, the editors defended their magazine's publication of articles critical of the Army which are widely seen to have led to the arrests of Janez Jansa and David Tasic, two contributors to *Mladina*, and a Slovene non-commissioned officer, Ivan Borsinar. All three are charged under military law and face up to 15 years' imprisonment. The arrests have drawn criticism from all walks of Slovene life, including the ruling Communist Party.

The *Mladina* editors yesterday said that it was "deeply disturbing that after the first arrest we searched for military documents in our offices and then two days afterwards found one on top of a desk. The keys to the *Mladina* office had been taken by the police after the first arrest."

The arrests followed the banning of an article in *Mladina* claiming that the Slovene military authorities were planning to make a series of arrests to "control" the situation in Yugoslavia's most liberal republic.

The police chief of Slovenia sought to calm public protest over the arrests yesterday, dismissing claims that the detentions were illegal.

90 per cent of whom belong to the party, is indoctrinated with the ideology of invincible communist partisan warfare. Despite attempts to introduce more Croat and Slovene officers, it is still made up largely of representatives of the traditionally martial races of Yugoslavia: Serbs, Bosnians and Montenegrins.

But as the arrest last week of three Slovenes underlined, this elite is being increasingly challenged. The gauntlet was thrown down last year by the Slovene youth magazine, *Mladina*. Slovenes, unlike Serbs, have a tradition of mercenary military service. In the 19th century, they fought valiantly both for the French and the Austrians. But apart from a few isolated Communist partisan units in the Second World War, they have fought alongside the

military service in modern Yugoslavia as an ideal career. *Mladina* first irritated the military by urging civilian service for conscientious objectors. A few weeks later it ruffled more feathers by describing the then Defence Minister, Admiral of the Fleet Branko Mumula, as "the salesman of death", pointing out that while other industries in Yugoslavia might seem inefficient its arms business was booming, bringing in about \$2 billion (£1.1 billion) a year.

Mladina then added insult to injury by accusing the admiral of using "slave military labour" to construct a luxury villa for his family on the former Austrian Riviera resort of Opatija.

But in the eyes of the military, *Mladina*'s most heinous crime was committed last month when it attempted to publish a speech by Mr Milan Kucan, the Slovene Communist leader, protesting at the military commander of the Slovene district offering his services to the Slovene police "in the event of their being unable to control the situation". *Mladina* claimed that there was a plan for mass arrests to prevent a "threat to the Yugoslav defence capability".

The article, which was banned, highlighted the rift between Slovene intellectuals and the military. The arrest last week of *Mladina*'s editor, Mr David Tasic, the magazine's chief anti-military propagandist, Mr Janez Jansa, and a Slovene non-commissioned officer, Ivan Borsinar, showed that there was a limit to the amount of tail-twisting that the military was prepared to take.

At the same time, the disquiet that the arrests have aroused is not confined to Slovene pacifists. On Monday the Slovene Communist Party issued a toughly worded statement complaining that the public had had insufficient information about the arrests, which were "an exception in judicial practice".

It was the first time that the leadership of one of Yugoslavia's republics had dared to criticize the military. The three Slovenes arrested face up to 15 years' imprisonment.

The role of the Army is not the only basis of differences between the small, prosperous republic of Slovenia and the southern republics.

Despite being almost exact contemporaries, Mr Slobodan Milosovic, the Serbian leader, is from a different mould to the Slovene, Mr Kucan. Both are lawyers, both came to power under the protection of powerful mentors. But Mr Milosovic is the more impetuous and ruthless. The Serbian party, traditionally more authoritarian, has already muzzled the Belgrade press slightly, prompting some writers to write for Slovene papers.

As the regional differences are exacerbated at a time of escalating economic crisis, it is inevitable that the Army — whose 67 words of Serbo-Croat command must be learnt by every conscript — has become the focus for Slovenes critical of Belgrade. But the Army's unity remains essential to Yugoslavia's future for, as Tito himself said on many occasions, the Army exists not only to safeguard Yugoslavia's frontiers but also "to defend the system within".

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PARLIAMENT

'Lack of action' on Rowntree bids comes under fire

The Government's refusal to refer the takeover bids for Rowntree to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was roundly condemned by Labour at the start of a Commons debate on the decision.

Mr Bryan Gould, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, attacked what he called the Government's cavalier attitude and complained that the workers had not been considered. It was typical of the Government to leave these matters to faceless institutional shareholders, he said.

He moved a motion condemning the Government's failure to refer the bids from Suchard and Nestlé to the commission and calling on the Government to adopt merger and competition policies that would allow industry to prepare effectively for the completion of the European single market in 1992 without the constant threat of predatory takeover bids.

He said: "We believe (the Government's) decision represents a betrayal of the thousands of people who work in British industry and those who want to see a bright future for that same industry, particularly with the opportunities opening up in 1992 with the internal market."

"We believe that failure represents a missed opportunity, an opportunity to pause and reflect, an opportunity to make a proper assessment as to where the national interest lay and an opportunity to take into account the developing circumstances which mean that, if this bid goes through, there will be a veritable collection of predators waiting to take their chance in the same way."

The failure had been a dash of hopes among the 13,000

TAKEOVERS

employees of Rowntree. What that failure meant to them was a total denial of their interests.

"They were, quite typically, the last people to be consulted, the last people to be kept informed, the last people to have their interests taken into account. It is typical of this Government that matters of this importance should be left exclusively to nameless, faceless, institutional shareholders."

The workers knew from bitter experience of the food and drink industry, which seemed to have become a victim of merger-mania, that where such mergers took place, the catchword was nearly always rationalization.

"That is, in almost every case, the euphemism for job losses, slimmings, downs, layoffs, redundancies. They know there are unmistakable signs which point to the need for exactly that sort of slimming down."

The decision not to refer the bid to the commission was also a blow to the regional economy. Rowntree was one of only 13 of Britain's 100 top companies to have their headquarters in the regions. The takeover would mean an end to decision-making in York, or even in London. Decisions would be made in Zurich and Lausanne.

The hopes of those wishing to obtain some indication from the Government of a constructive and coherent competition policy had been dashed by the decision. The only element that appeared to weigh with the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Lord Young of Grahamstown) was how he felt when he got up in the morning.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Trade and Industry, moved a

Government amendment supporting the decision.

He said that the Government believed that the greatest national interest lay in allowing things to take place within the market place and that judgments were best taken by shareholders about the likely performance of the companies in which they had a stake.

The Government's policy was consistent and clear. It viewed this case as a perfectly ordinary takeover. It accepted the view of the Director General of Fair Trading that there was no reason for the Government to intervene and nothing to refer to the commission.

That did not mean the Government was taking any view at all about who should own Rowntree. What it was saying was that no public interest justified overriding the views of the shareholders.

The British interest was undoubtedly in the freest possible movement of inward and outward investment. Britain was probably one of the most open trading nations in the world and that situation had worked overwhelmingly to the advantage of the British economy.

The nationality of companies was becoming increasingly irrelevant in modern trading conditions. Everybody knew that Nestlé employed more people here than in Switzerland, had been established here for more than 100 years, and had a great deal of support.

"Nestlé make good products like Worcester Sauce, Asda, Bourne Water and Branston Pickle, as well as Nescafé. There may be Labour MPs who deride all these products as foreign muck and will organize a boycott in the Tea Room, but there will not be much advantage to them."

Banks' message to the drinkers

A dire warning about the dangers of excessive drinking was given to MPs by Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) (right) when seeking leave in the Commons to introduce a Bill requiring warnings to be printed on bottles and cans.

Those who drank every day, as many MPs did, were on track for some form of alcohol-related illness, he said. Alcohol was a killer.

His Bill, which has little chance of becoming law in this Parliament, would require all products containing alcohol to carry a Government health warning and the display of a warning notice in all licensed premises.

Mr Banks said that he was a drinker and he was not introducing the Bill from a puritanical point of view. He would remind all those who believed that alcohol was the devil's brew that Christ had chosen to turn water into wine, not Rowntree's coffee or Nestlé's cocoa.

But the increasing drinking of alcohol was injurious to health. Dependency started at a very low level. Safe weekly consumption was the equivalent of 10½ pints for men and 7½ pints for women.

At least 25,000 and probably 45,000 deaths a year were linked to inappropriate drinking. Alcohol was associated with 52 per cent of deaths from fire; two-thirds of suicides; 62 per cent of serious head injuries in men; 36 per cent of road traffic fatalities; a third of domestic accidents; and 30 per cent of drownings. The cost to society had been estimated by York University at \$846 million a year.

Because of general noise in the Chamber and interruptions, the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, said: "Would the club below the gangway please listen carefully."

Mr Banks said that he put it all down to heavy lunching.



He added that every year the Government launched a Christmas campaign against drinking and driving. That was welcome, but it should also include the problems of drinking excessively and should be an around-the-year campaign.

Consumption had risen by 2,945 per cent since 1945. It had doubled in the past five years.

UK per capita consumption was higher than that of the Soviet Union, Finland and Poland. Between 1973 and 1986, the number of on and off licences had risen by 32 per cent. The Government was increasing availability by easing drinking controls.

People under 25 were drinking more than any other age group. Young people seemed to believe that alcohol could not be dangerous. If it was, they said, the Government would do something about it.

The Bill would cause alcohol products to say: "HM Government warning: alcohol can seriously damage your health". The same notice would appear on menus in bars and restaurants.

Howe's concern over camps

The British Consul General in Jerusalem is to be asked to contact a man who showed Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, around a Palestinian refugee camp in the occupied territories, after an allegation that his wife had been assaulted by Israeli troops.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said at a question time that if any kind of link could be demonstrated between the treatment received by the woman and Mr Mellor's visit the Government would clearly have to take an even more serious view.

Mr George Galloway (Glasgow, Hillhead, Lab) had said that he had just returned from the occupied territories.

He had met an elderly gentleman, Mr Muhammad Abu Shawish, who was a refugee services officer in Jabalia camp. He had taken Mr Mellor around the camp. His wife, aged 63, had been savagely beaten by Israeli soldiers three days after Mr Mellor left the camp and had three ribs and an arm broken by them.

Thatcher's reply to Kirk

The report *Housing Scotland's People*, presented to the Prime Minister at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland on May 21, rests heavily on old DHSS statistics on low-income families. Mrs Thatcher said in a written Commons reply. The figures had significant weaknesses.

Among weaknesses in the statistics were that the more help provided to those dependent on benefits, the more people would appear to be on "low incomes".

Blandford Fly disquiet

The scourge of the Blandford Fly, which is breeding in such numbers in the River Stour in Dorset as to cause disquiet to residents, has been drawn to the Prime Minister's attention.

She said, in a written reply, that there was to be a meeting of the Health and Safety Executive, North Dorset District Council, and the Freshwater Biological Association on June 8 to discuss the problem.

Laboratory debate denied

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) refused a request for an emergency debate on the Government's decision to sell the National Engineering Laboratory at East Kilbride, which was announced in a written answer on Tuesday. Bids have to be in by July 22.

Mr Adam Ingram (East Kilbride, Lab) said that this indecent haste meant the sell-off would take place while Parliament was in recess and thus avoid scrutiny.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Prime Minister; Housing Bill; progress on remaining stages.

Lords (3): Local Government Finance Bill, committee, fifth day.

Russian threat continues

It would be foolish to forget the Soviet Union's continuing offensive-weapon posture, that they launch a new submarine every 36 days and are continuing to increase their strategic intercontinental resources into the mid-1990s, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Relations, said during question time.

He was speaking while welcoming the progress made in improving East-West relations in the past five years.

Earlier, he had disclosed that he would be meeting Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, again, in Madrid that night.

Mr Graham Allen (Nottingham North, Lab) when he meets Mr Shultz, will he ask what plans he has to reciprocate the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan?

If Mr Shultz has no suggestions, will the Foreign Secretary suggest that Mr Shultz should see his colleagues and friends in Honduras and ask them to disperse the Contra forces there.

Sir Geoffrey: I doubt whether we shall discuss that point in Madrid this evening or in the near future.

No one should take reciprocal action for the withdrawal. That is wholly without foundation. The world welcomes the Soviet Union's decision to withdraw.

Criminal Justice Bill

The difficulty lies in a definition

By Geoffrey Smith

"We're not voting on the principle of capital punishment", Mr Merlyn Rees, the former Labour Home Secretary, told the Commons towards the end of Tuesday's debate. "We're voting on a new Clause One."

In this brief speech, which silenced a noisy, chattering House, Mr Rees went to the heart of the issue.

Nobody was suggesting going back to the days before abolition.

The proposition being put forward by the hangers-on or perhaps extinguishers would be a more appropriate word as their leading spokesman, Mr Roger Gale, rejected hanging as too barbaric a method of taking life — was simply to give the courts the right to impose capital punishment for murder.

There would be nothing automatic about it. It would be for the jury to recommend and for the judge to determine.

This distinction coloured the whole debate. The contributions that had most effect were not the passionate statements of conviction. Admirable though these may be, they have all been heard before and they tend to cancel each other out.

But those who were advocating change had put themselves in the position of having to defend not only their principles but also their practical proposal.

They were recommending not a return to mandatory capital

punishment, subject only to reprieve, but a compromise. Was it one that would work?

The most devastating speeches were those that examined what it would mean. How were judges and juries expected to exercise their discretion?

Mr Gale had said in his opening speech that he was not seeking to define different categories of murder. The difficulty of doing that had been evident in previous attempts to restore capital punishment.

But if Parliament was not going to distinguish between one murder and another, how were judges and juries to decide which deserved capital punishment and which did not?

Would they just be guided by their personal beliefs? The charge that justice would be arbitrary was never effectively answered.

Yet this was by no means the first time that the supporters of capital punishment had found themselves nursing an embarrassing compromise.

Last year it was the concept of an "evil" murder. In 1983, it was terrorist murders, and a range of other categories such as the murder of a police or prison officer, or by shooting or causing an explosion.

The need to defend invidious distinctions would be avoided if the proposal was simply to retain capital punishment. But it is recognized that there would be no chance of getting that through Parliament.

Just as abolitionists know that they are operating in hostile territory in the country at large, so supporters of the death penalty realize that the odds are stacked against them in the House.

The psychological advantage is conceded before the contest begins.

That explains why there was



Mr Rees: We are not voting on the principle

less tension than in previous debates on the issue. There was a sense of inevitability that the actors all knew their parts, but everyone recognized that it is a performance that cannot be repeated frequently.

This sense of inevitability was all the greater because there was no true parliamentary heavyweight arguing the case for restoration.

One of the curious features of this Government is that, although Mrs Thatcher is herself a restorationist, she has always appointed an abolitionist as Home Secretary.

The only partial exception was Mr Leon Brittan, who favoured the death penalty for terrorist murders in 1983. But there is no reason to suppose that that reflected his settled belief. He is at heart an abolitionist.

So too without equivocation is Mr Douglas Hurd, who used the opportunity of the traditional Home Secretary's speech on Tuesday to make a quietly reasoned but logically powerful case against the proposal.

For more than 30 years the successive debates on capital punishment have been great parliamentary occasions.

They have provided rare opportunities for the decision on a great issue, on which many people feel passionately, to be influenced by the speeches on the floor. For once the whips do not have the last word.

But now warfare has degenerated into ritual. The actors all know their parts, but everyone recognizes that it is a performance that cannot be repeated frequently.

Capital punishment: How the House of Commons divided

MPs voted on Tuesday by 341 to 218 in majority, 12-1 (as reported in later editions yesterday) to reject the reintroduction of capital punishment. Those who voted during the report stage of the Criminal Justice Bill, for its reintroduction were:

Ayes

Robert Adley, C; David Amess, C; James Arbuthnot, C; Jacques Arnold, C; Tom Arnold, C; Jack Aspinwall, C; Robert Atkins, C; Nicholas Baker, C; Spencer Barstie, C; Anthony Beaumont-Dark, C; Roy Bege, OUP; Henry Bellingham, C; Vivian Bence, C; David Berr, C; David Bevan, C; Sir John Biegs-Davison, C; John Blackburn, C; Sir Peter Blaker, C; Sir Nicholas Bonser, C; Robert Boswell, C; Gerald Bowden, C; Sir Rhodes Boyson, C; Sir Benjamin Britton, C; Martin Brandon-Bravo, C; Julian Brazier, C; Graham Bright, C; Michael Brown, C; John Browne, C; Simon Burns, C; John Butcher, C; Christopher Butler, C; John Carlisle, C; Matthew Carrington, C; Michael Carrison, C; William Cash, C; Lynda Chalker, C; Sydney Chapman, C; Christopher Chope, C; Winston Churchill, C; Alan Clark, C; Michael Colvin, C; Derek Conway, C; Anthony Coombe, C; Simon Coombs, C; James Cran, C; Edwin Currie, C; Quentin Davies, C; David Davis, C; Stephen Day, C; Timothy Devlin, C; Geoffrey Dickens, C; Terence Dicks, C; Don Dover, C; Robert Dunn, C; Tony Durant, C; Timothy Eggar, C; Sir Peter Emery, C; David Evans, C; David Evans, C; Michael Fallon, C; Sir John Farr, C; Anthony Favell, C; Barry Field, C; Janet Footes, C; Michael Forsyth, C; Clifford Forsythe, OUP; Eric Forth, C; Norman Fowler, C; Sir Marcus Fox, C; Douglas French, C;

Peter Fry, C; Roger Gale, C; George Gardiner, C; Christopher Gifford, C; Sir David Goodhart, C; Dr Charles Goodman-Wickes, C; Teresa Goodman, C; Sir Anthony Grant, C; Harry Greenwood, C; Conal Gregory, C; Sir Eldon Griffiths, C; Angela Gwynne, C; Michael Grylls, C; Archibald Hamilton, C; Neil Hamilton, C; Jeremy Hanley, C; John Hannam, C; Andrew Hargreaves, C; Kenneth Hargreaves, C; Robert Hayward, C; Michael Hicks, C; Robert Hicks, C; Kenneth Hind, C; Richard Holt, C; Sir Peter Horder, C; Gerald Howarth, C; David Howell, C; Ralph Howell, C; Andrew Hunter, C; Robert Jackson, C; Timothy Janman, C; Robert Jones, C; Dame Elaine Keir-Rowman, C; Robert Key, C; Roger King, C; Timothy Kirkhope, C; Roger Knappman, C; Gregory Knight, C; Dame Jill Knight, C; Michael Knowles, C; Ian Lang, C; Ivan Lawrence, C; John Lee, C; Edward Leigh, C; David Lightbown, C; Michael Lord, C; Rev William McCrea, DUP; Robert McCrindle, C; Harold McCusker, OUP; Sir Neil MacFarlane, C; Andrew Mackay, C; David Maclean, C; Patrick McLoughlin, C; Patrick McNair-Wilson, C; Humphrey Malins, C; Keith Mans, C; Antony Marlow, C; John Marshall, C; David Martin, C; Michael Matas, C; Francis Maude, C; Dr Brian Mawhinney, C; Robin Maxwell-Hyslop, C; Hal Miller, C; Iain Mills, C; Andrew Mitchell, C; David Mitchell, C; James Molyneux, OUP; Sir Hector Moore, C; Sir Fergus Montgomery, C; John Moore, C; Peter Morrison, C; John Munn, C; David Munn, C; Gerard Neill, C; Michael Neuber, C; Patrick Nicholls, C; David Nicholson, C; Philip Oppenheim, C; James Paice, C; Rev Ian Paisley, DUP; Irvine Patrick, C; Sir Geoffrey Paton, C; James Pawsey, C;

Elizabeth Peacock, C; Barry Porter, C; David Porter, C; Michael Portillo, C; Sir David Price, C; John Rodgwell, C; Graham Rickless, C; Teresa Ridley, C; Sir Julian Ridsdale, C; Peter Robinson, DUP; William Ross, OUP; Peter Rost, C; Angela Rumbold, C; David Shaw, C; Gillian Shepherd, C; Colin Shepherd, C; Richard Shepherd, C; Michael Shersby, C;



Mr Norman Fowler: Voted for the clause

C; Roger Sims, C; Sir Trevor Skeet, C; Cyril Smith, SLD; Rev Martin Smyth, OUP; Tony Spiller, C; Sir James Spicer, C; Ivor Stannbrook, C; Anthony Steel, C; Lewis Stevens, C; Andrew Stewart, C; Ian Stewart, C; John Stokes, C; David Sumberg, C; Hugo Summerson, C; Teddy Taylor, C; John Mark Brittan, C; Peter Brooke, C; Gordon Brown, Lab; Nicholas Brown, Lab; Ronald Brown, Lab; Malcolm Bruce, SLD; Norman Buchan, Lab; Allick Buchanan-Smith, C; Sir Anthony Buck, C; George Buckley, Lab; Nicholas Budgen, C; John Butterfield, C; Richard Caborn, Lab; James Callaghan, Lab; Menzies Camp-

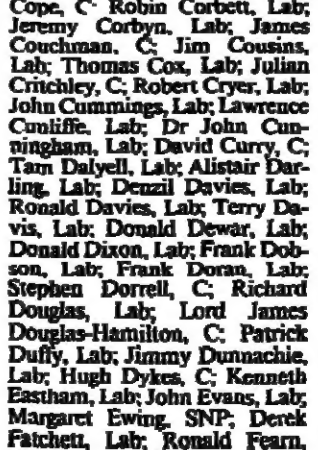
bell, SLD; Ronald Campbell, Lab; Dale Campbell-Savours, Lab; Dennis Canavan, Lab; Alexander Cardie, SLD; Kenneth Carlisle, C; John Cartwright, SDP; Paul Channon, C; Dr David Clark, Lab; Kenneth Clarke, C; Thomas Clarke, Lab; Stephen Dorrell, C; Raymond Douglas, Lab; Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, C; Patrick Duffy, Lab; Jimmy Dunningham, Lab; Hugh Dykes, C; Kenneth Eastham, Lab; John Evans, Lab; Margaret Ewing, SNP; Derek Fatchett, Lab; Ronald Fearn, SLD; Frank Field, Lab; Terence Field, Lab; Mark Fisher, Lab; Paul Flynn, Lab; Michael Foot, Lab; Nigel Forman, C; Derek Foster, Lab; George Foulkes, Lab; Cecil Franks, C; John Fraser, Lab; Roger Freeman, C; Maria Fyfe, Lab; Samuel Galbraith, Lab; George Galloway, Lab; Tristan Garel-Jones, C; Edward Garmy, Lab; John Garrett, Lab; Bruce George, Lab; Sir Ian Gilmour, C; Dr Norman Godman, Lab; Llin Gordan, Lab; Alastair Goodlad, C; Milford Gordon, Lab; Bryan Gould, Lab; Ian Gow, C; Thomas Graham, Lab; Nigel Griffiths, Lab; Winston Griffiths, Lab; Ian Grist, C; Patrick Ground, C; John Gummer, C; Dr Keith Hampson, C; Harriet Harman, Lab; David Harris, C;

Those voting against the clause to restore capital punishment were:

Noes

Diane Abbott, Lab; Allen Adams, Lab; Michael Allison, C; Graham Allen, Lab; David Alton, SLD; Julian Amery, C; Alan Amos, C; Donald Anderson, Lab; Peter Archer, Lab; Hilary Armstrong, Lab; Paddy Ashdown, SLD; Joe Ashton, Lab; Kenneth Baker, C; Tony Baldry, C; Robert Banks, C; Tony Barnes, Lab; Rosie Barnes, SDP; Kevin Barron, Lab; John Battle, Lab; Margaret Beckett, Lab; Alan Bell, SLD; Stuart Bell, Lab; Tony Benn, Lab; Andrew Bennet, Lab; Gerald Bermingham, Lab; Sydney Bidwell, Lab; John Biffen, C; Anthony Blair, Lab; David Blunkett, Lab; Paul Boateng, Lab; Sir Richard Body, C; Timothy Bowtell, C; Virginia Bottomley, C; Peter Bottomley, C; John Bowyer, C; Roland Boyes, Lab; Keith Bradley, Lab; Dr Jeremy Bray, Lab; Leon Brittan, C; Peter Brooke, C; Gordon Brown, Lab; Nicholas Brown, Lab; Ronald Brown, Lab; Malcolm Bruce, SLD; Norman Buchan, Lab; Allick Buchanan-Smith, C; Sir Anthony Buck, C; George Buckley, Lab; Nicholas Budgen, C; John Butterfield, C; Richard Caborn, Lab; James Callaghan, Lab; Menzies Camp-

bell, SLD; Ronald Campbell, Lab; Dale Campbell-Savours, Lab; Dennis Canavan, Lab; Alexander Cardie, SLD; Kenneth Carlisle, C; John Cartwright, SDP; Paul Channon, C; Dr David Clark, Lab; Kenneth Clarke, C; Thomas Clarke, Lab; Stephen Dorrell, C; Raymond Douglas, Lab; Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, C; Patrick Duffy, Lab; Jimmy Dunningham, Lab; Hugh Dykes, C; Kenneth Eastham, Lab; John Evans, Lab; Margaret Ewing, SNP; Derek Fatchett, Lab; Ronald Fearn, SLD; Frank Field, Lab; Terence Field, Lab; Mark Fisher, Lab; Paul Flynn, Lab; Michael Foot, Lab; Nigel Forman, C; Derek Foster, Lab; George Foulkes, Lab; Cecil Franks, C; John Fraser, Lab; Roger Freeman, C; Maria Fyfe, Lab; Samuel Galbraith, Lab; George Galloway, Lab; Tristan Garel-Jones, C; Edward Garmy, Lab; John Garrett, Lab; Bruce George, Lab; Sir Ian Gilmour, C; Dr Norman Godman, Lab; Llin Gordan, Lab; Alastair Goodlad, C; Milford Gordon, Lab; Bryan Gould, Lab; Ian Gow, C; Thomas Graham, Lab; Nigel Griffiths, Lab; Winston Griffiths, Lab; Ian Grist, C; Patrick Ground, C; John Gummer, C; Dr Keith Hampson, C; Harriet Harman, Lab; David Harris, C;



Mr David Owen: Voted against the clause

James Hood, Lab; Michael Howard, C; Alan Howarth, C; George Howarth, Lab; Denis Howell, Lab; Geraint Howells, SLD; Douglas Hoyle, Lab; John Hughes, Lab; Robert Hughes, C; Roy Hughes, C; David Hughes, Lab; Douglas Hogg, C; Norman Hogg, Lab; Stuart Holland, Lab; John Home Robertson, Lab;

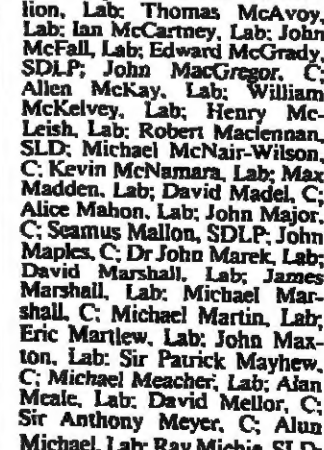
Alan Haselhurst, C; Roy Hattersley, Lab; Christopher Hawkins, C; Jeremy Hayes, C; Frank Hayles, Lab; Denis Healey, Lab; David Heathcoat-Amory, C; Eric Heffer, Lab; Douglas Henderson, Lab; Michael Heseltine, C; Terence Higgins, C; David Hinchey, Lab; Douglas Hogg, C; Norman Hogg, Lab; Stuart Holland, Lab; John Home Robertson, Lab;



Mr David Owen: Voted against the clause

James Hood, Lab; Michael Howard, C; Alan Howarth, C; George Howarth, Lab; Denis Howell, Lab; Geraint Howells, SLD; Douglas Hoyle, Lab; John Hughes, Lab; Robert Hughes, C; Roy Hughes, C; David Hughes, Lab; Douglas Hogg, C; Norman Hogg, Lab; Stuart Holland, Lab; John Home Robertson, Lab;

Lab; Archy Kirkwood, SLD; David Knox, C; Norman Lamont, C; Nigel Lawson, C; Edward Leaver, Lab; Ronald Leighton, Lab; Mark Lennox-Boyd, C; James Lester, C; Joan Lester, Lab; Terence Lewis, Lab; Peter Lilley, C; Ken Livingstone, Lab; Anthony Lloyd, Lab; Peter Lloyd, C; Sir Ian Lloyd, C; Geoffrey Lofthouse, Lab; Edward Loyden, Lab; John McAloon, Lab; Thomas McAvooy, Lab; Ian McCartney, Lab; John McFall, Lab; Edward McGrady, SLD; John MacGregor, C; Allen McKay, Lab; William McKelvey, Lab; Henry McLeish, Lab; Robert MacLennan, SLD; Michael McNair-Wilson, C; Michael McNamara, Lab; Max Madden, Lab; David Madel, C; Alice Mahon, Lab; John Major, C; Seamus Mallon, SLD; John Maples, C; Dr John Marek, Lab; David Marshall, Lab; James Marshall, Lab; Michael Marshall, C; Michael Martin, Lab; Eric Marlow, Lab; John Maxwell, Lab; Sir Patrick Mayhew, C; Michael Meacher, Lab; Alan Meale, Lab; David Mellor, C; Sir Anthony Meyer, C; Alun Michael, Lab; Ray Michie, SLD; William Michie, Lab; Bruce Millan, Lab; Norman Miscampbell, C; Austin Mitchell, Lab; Roger Moore, C; Dr Lewis Moonie, Lab; Rhodri Morgan, Lab; Elliot Morley, Lab; Alfred Morris, Lab; John Morris, Lab; Sir Charles Morrison, C; Marjorie Mowlem, Lab; Christopher Mullin, Lab; Richard Needham, C; David Nellist, Lab; Anthony Nelson, C; Tony Newton, C; Emma Nicholson, C; Gordon Oakes, Lab; William O'Brien, Lab; Martin O'Neill, Lab; Cranley Oslow, C; Stanley Orme, Lab; Dr David Owen, SLD; Terry Patchett, Lab; John Patten, C; Tom Pendery, Lab; Peter Pike, Lab; Raymond Powell, Lab; William Powell, C; John Prescott, Lab; Dawn Primarolo, Lab; Joyce Quin,



Mr David Owen: Voted against the clause

James Hood, Lab; Michael Howard, C; Alan Howarth, C; George Howarth, Lab; Denis Howell, Lab; Geraint Howells, SLD; Douglas Hoyle, Lab; John Hughes, Lab; Robert Hughes, C; Roy Hughes, C; David Hughes, Lab; Douglas Hogg, C; Norman Hogg, Lab; Stuart Holland, Lab; John Home Robertson, Lab;

Lab; Giles Radice, Lab; Timothy Raison, C; Stuart Randall, Lab; Martin Redmond, Lab; Merlyn Rees, Lab; Dr John Reid, Lab; Timothy Rees, C; Robert Rhodes James, C; Jo Richardson, Lab; Malcolm Rifkind, C; Allan Roberts, Lab; George Robertson, Lab; Geoffrey Robinson, Lab; Allen Rogers, Lab; Jeffrey Rooker, Lab; Andrew Ross, Lab; Andrew Row, C; Edward Rowlands, Lab; John Roddick, Lab; Richard Ryder, C; Thomas Sackville, C; Timothy Sainsbury, C; Alexander Salmond, SNP; Nicholas Scott, C; Brian Sedgmore, Lab; Sir Giles Stanger, C; Barry Sheenan, Lab; Peter Shore, Lab; Clare Short, Lab; Dennis Skinner, Lab; Andrew Smith, Lab; Christopher Smith, Lab; John Smith, Lab; Timothy Smith, C; Peter Snape, Lab; Nicholas Soames, C; George Soley, Lab; Nigel Spearing, Lab; Michael Spence, C; Robin Squire, C; John Stanley, C; David Steel, SLD; Gerald Steinberg, Lab; Michael Stern, C; Sir John Stradling Thomas, C; Gavin Strang, Lab; Jack Straw, Lab; Sir Peter Tapsell, C; Alan Taylor, Lab; Ian Taylor, C; Matthew Taylor, SLD; Peter Temple-Morris, C; Dafydd Thomas, PI; C; Cyril Townsend, C; Dennis Turner, Lab; Keith Vaz, Lab; John Wakeham, C; William Wakeham, C; George Walder, C; Patrick Wall, Lab; James Wallace, SLD; Gary Walter, C; Joan Wallley, Lab; Dennis Walters, C; Robert Wareing, Lab; Michael Welsh, Lab; John White, C; David White, PI; C; John Williams, Lab; Alan Williams, Lab; David Wishart, C; Brian Wilson, Lab; David Winnick, Lab; Audrey Wise, Lab; Tony Worthington, Lab; James Wray, Lab; Sir George Young, C; Telfers for the Noes were David Ashty, C, and Peter Groot, Lab.



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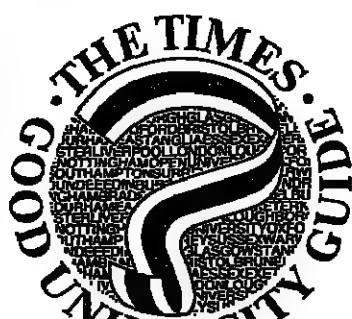
A school in the London borough of Brent protested recently against plans by the council to build a housing estate nearby. The school feared that the increase in traffic past its gates might be a danger to pupils. At the public inquiry into the proposal, the council engaged a well-known QC to present its case. The eminent Silk found himself confronted by an alliance of objectors whose attack was co-ordinated by a team of undergraduates from the law school of Warwick University, who were doing it as a class project.

The outcome of the inquiry has not yet been announced, but the objectors had no complaints. Their young helpers gave their services free, and every step of the progress was closely supervised by a qualified member of Warwick University staff. As for the students, they had gained an insight into the real dynamics of legal confrontation.

Warwick's "clinical programme" sets law students grappling with real cases and real clients, at planning inquiries, industrial tribunals and social security hearings, and even up to county court level. They have handled numerous cases involving disputes over blame for motor accidents in which injury has been hurt - if an injury is involved, then the case becomes eligible for legal aid, and the students do not attempt to compete with the qualified representation of the litigants can secure.

"We try not to take on cases where we are not confident that we can give at least as good a service as a paid lawyer," says Avron Sherr, director of Warwick's legal practice programme. "There is close supervision of every single letter that goes out, and the supervision sessions are a major teaching tool. We deep-dive all the cases for it, to get away from the old Oxbridge method based on memorizing huge tracts of black-letter law which will probably be obsolete before they are 10 years into their careers."

The Warwick initiative represents the new face of the teaching of law. A few other centres offer similar approaches, including Brunel University and the South Bank Poly (rated top poly for law teaching in a 1985 survey by *The Times Higher Educational Supplement*), where some stu-



● City institutions are already hot on the trail of this year's crop of law graduates

● But fears are growing that there could be danger in the lure of big money

Part Nine: The evidence on a changing profession

dents conduct simulated lawsuits, with teachers acting the parts of confused or obstructive witnesses. Other South Bank students are sent to sit behind the counter in local Citizens' Advice Bureaux.

At Queen Mary College, an arm of the University of London, and at some other colleges, the trend from memory-testing has gone so far that law students are allowed to take their notes and source-books into their exams with them. "No lawyer worth his salt would ever try to solve a problem without checking his books. It doesn't mean you can get by without knowing your stuff," says Professor Graham Zellick, dean of the college.

These innovations are gaining ground in a traditionally rather hidebound subject, even though universities and colleges are not academically free-standing in their provision in the sense that they are with most degree courses. The majority of their students are studying to gain a qualification which the governing bodies of the profession itself are prepared to recognise as equivalent to the first stage of their own long-drawn-out

training regimes. So the universities cannot get out of step with the profession.

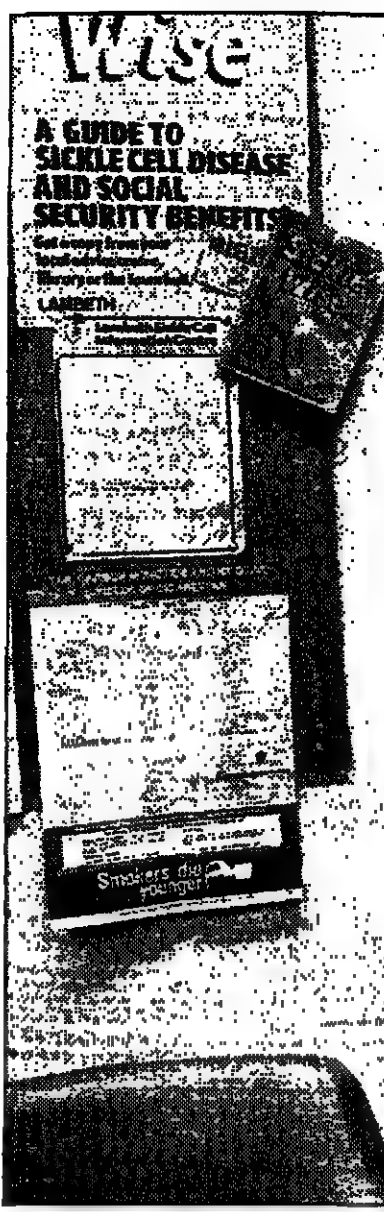
But now the profession itself is increasingly attuned to change, as it expands and grows increasingly diverse. Even the age-old division between solicitor and barrister - a career dilemma which casts its shadow heavily over the later undergraduate years, informally if not formally - is now seriously under question.

"In the past, relations between the practical profession and the academic world were guarded on both sides," says Zellick. "It was difficult to find a judge who had read law at university - they had all read Greats. But now there is more emphasis on continuing education, and the mutual suspicions are breaking down."

The practical profession has also developed an insatiable appetite for the products of the colleges. Recruiters on the "milk round" from the big City solicitors' firms start sizing up the talent and lavishly wooing it before students are even in their final year. It is said that City firms are so greedy for articulated clerks that they could take this year's entire output of law graduates. Demand is so keen that few presentable graduates find difficulty in securing work, and even the traditional bias against women is breaking down to some extent. Rewards for high-flyers are dazzling.

Demand from the opposite end - from applicants seeking to study law - is correspondingly intense. Although there was a small check last year, applications have risen strongly in most recent years, and the subject is still the most popular of all for applicants. It is seen as a useful grounding for managerial and administrative careers outside the law altogether: between 30 and 40 per cent of law students never become qualified lawyers, and a similar proportion never intended to. But the capacity of law departments has not risen to meet the evident demand from both employers and students. Law courses are notoriously overcrowded, and staff-student ratios are at a level more in line with schools than with studies for a degree.

There is no discipline in which the constraints imposed by the University Grants Committee create greater distortion of the mar-



Legal practice: student Anne-Marie Brennan, from South Bank Polytechnic, offers a word of advice to a client at a Streatham advice bureau

ket, and none where they are more resented. "I think the underfunding by the UGC is actually a public scandal," Zellick says. "They allow a smaller unit of resource for each law student than in any other subject, though they know it is well below the true economic cost. Because we have been forced to teach on the cheap in the past, we're penalized for it."

The alluring blandishments of the City and blocked promotion prospects increasingly tempt staff away. "They know that some of their students will be earning more than their teachers within three years of leaving university," Sherr

says. He is convinced that this tendency represents a danger to teaching standards, though Zellick remains more sanguine.

Some commentators are also concerned that the pressures from the City might create distortions in attitudes among teachers and students. The hunger for funds could induce departments to take on overseas students - who pay at market rates - in larger numbers than they can adequately cope with. Recruitment to socially valuable but less lucrative areas of practice may fall off as the disparities in rewards grow more marked. Recent months have also

seen a rush of delegations carrying the academic begging-bowl to law firms in hopes of sponsorship. The fears are that subsidy may enable commercial law to mould academic provision too much into its own image.

"It is a real danger, but so long as one is alive to it, and takes care to observe the traditions of academic freedom, one can normally avoid it," says Zellick, whose college has had notable success in this field.

Openings, attitudes, skills and demands are all changing faster in the legal world than in most fields of university study. Yet in legal

studies more than most, financial controls limit the scope of the academic world to adapt to meet these changes. The future for the study of the law seems to be a vista of great opportunities, and also of great stress.

George Hill

TOMORROW

The fun and games:
where are the best
sporting facilities?

A to Z

University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD (0865 270207). Inquiries: Oxford Colleges Admissions Offices.

Location: Most of Oxford's honey-coloured colleges are clustered around the heart of this historic city. The remainder lie within walking distance of the High Street. Twenty-six undergraduate colleges are mixed and two, St Hilda's and Somerville, women only.

History: The oldest university in the English-speaking world, Oxford was the place of teaching by 1096. The first colleges were Balliol, Merton, St Edmund Hall and University. The most modern of them, St Catherine's and St Peter's, were both built during this century.

Undergraduates: 9,730 (Male/Female ratio 3:2). Main areas of study: The biggest faculties are Physical Sciences, Literae Humaniores (Classics, Philosophy, Greek and Roman History), Modern History, English, Law, Medieval and Modern Languages. Traditionally, most Oxford degrees are single-subject only, but there are an increasing number of popular joint degree courses, such as PPE or Mathematics and Computer Science. Students attend lectures, classes and lab courses in the university but tutorials in their own colleges. Length of degree course: normally three years, leading to a BA. Candidates can name up to three colleges or make an open application to the University.

Social life: Each college houses its first-year students and provides them with meals, libraries, sports facilities and a social focus by way of the JCR. Many students can live in again during their second or third years. Private accommodation in town is expensive. The city offers plenty of entertainment. Drama, debating, journalism, politics and team sports are all popular. The OUSU is a central campaigning body but has no central SU building. Student views are taken from the *Alternative Prospectuses*.

BALLIOL
Oxford OX1 3BJ (0865 277777). Undergraduates: 346. Description: One of the oldest colleges. Reputation for being academically high powered. The well-stocked library is open until midnight. The JCR is lively and the college is famous for its Music Society concerts. Student view: "A relaxed and tolerant attitude and a refreshing lack of pressure to be involved with anything. Rooms range from shoeboxes to palatial apartments." Famous graduates: Bryan Gould, Graham Greene, Edward Heath. Open days: June 30.

BRASENOSE
Oxford OX1 4AJ (0865 277830). Undergraduates: 332. Description: Founded in 1509, Brasenose is one side of attractive Radcliffe Square. A

strong reputation for Mathematics, Chemistry, Law and PPE. Good sporting facilities include squash and tennis courts and a boathouse. Student view: "The social mix is becoming more diverse, its 'hearty' image is on the decline, although insularity and cliquishness are still facts of life. An excellent sports ground half a mile away." Famous graduates: Jeffrey Archer, William Golding, Michael Palin. Open days: June 28.

CHRIST CHURCH
Oxford OX1 1DP (0865 276150). Undergraduates: 385. Description: Founded by Cardinal Wolsey in 1525. One of the largest and most attractive of the colleges. In the centre of the city, only minutes away from the Meadows. The well-stocked library includes a new 24-hour law library. Known as The House. Student view: "Academically successful but not pressurized. Wealthy enough to offer excellent accommodation, a well-stocked library and first-rate sports facilities." Famous graduates: Leon Britton MP, Lord St John of Fawley, Auberon Waugh. Open days: June 2, June 28.

CORPUS CHRISTI
Oxford OX1 4JF (0865 276700). Undergraduates: 290. Description: Founded in 1314. In the city centre next to the Bodleian Library. Small and friendly. Strong academic reputation. Non-academic facilities include a multi-gym, a boathouse and bowls and croquet lawns on site. Student view: "Central, small and friendly. There is a tendency to insularity but no pressure to conform. Smokeway JCR is good for vegetating in but not for much else as facilities are poor. Does well in most sports." Famous graduates: Martin Amis, Roger Bannister, Alan Bennett, J R R Tolkien. Open days: June 28.

EXETER
Oxford OX1 3DP (0865 279500). Undergraduates: 290. Description: Founded in 1314. In the city centre next to the Bodleian Library. Small and friendly. Strong academic reputation. Non-academic facilities include a multi-gym, a boathouse and bowls and croquet lawns on site. Student view: "Central, small and friendly. There is a tendency to insularity but no pressure to conform. Smokeway JCR is good for vegetating in but not for much else as facilities are poor. Does well in most sports." Famous graduates: Martin Amis, Roger Bannister, Alan Bennett, J R R Tolkien. Open days: June 28.

HERTFORD
Oxford OX1 3BW (0865 279400). Undergraduates: 332. Description: Founded in 1509, Hertford is one side of attractive Radcliffe Square. A

Undergraduates: 315. Description: Founded as Hart Hall in the 13th Century. One of the first colleges to admit women. Notable for Law and Geography. Also good for football, rowing and music. Student view: "The academic pressure is quite high and everybody is expected to work. Facilities are quite poor but the friendly atmosphere and general approach to discipline generally make up for this." Famous graduates: John Donne, Evelyn Waugh. Open days: June 20-23.

JESUS COLLEGE
Oxford OX1 3DW (0865 279700). Undergraduates: 298. Description: Founded by Elizabeth I in 1571. Central position near the libraries and shops. Good balance between men and women. Self-contained and student view: "A good social balance contributes to an unpretentious and relaxed atmosphere. Academically, pressure on students is not excessive. This leads to strong, but variable performance." Famous graduates: T E Lawrence, Magnus Magnusson. Open days: June 28, 29.

KEBLE
Oxford OX1 3PG (0865 272711). Undergraduates: 393. Description: Blend of Victorian and prize winning modern architecture, facing the lovely university parks and a short walk away from the city centre. One of the largest colleges. It was founded to provide an education for people from less privileged backgrounds. Student view: "Keble is by tradition a 'sporting' rather than an 'academic' college. In recent years academic pressure and achievement has increased considerably, especially in the sciences." Famous graduates: Imran Khan, Sir Peter Pears. Open day: June 29.

LADY MARGARET HALL
Oxford OX2 6QA (0865 274300). Undergraduates: 348. Description: First women's college in Oxford, now has an equal number of male and female students. About 15 minutes walk from the centre of town. College boathouse, and a fleet of punts. Student view: "The almost proverbially friendly atmosphere provides insulation from the rest of Oxford for those who want it and complaints, such as they are, seem to suggest too much rather than too little intensity in terms of sport and JCR politics." Famous graduates: Benazir Bhutto, Lady Antonia Fraser, Diana Chnick. Open days: Visitors welcome in

the summer (not August) by appointment.

LINCOLN
Oxford OX1 3DR (0865 279800). Undergraduates: 253. Description: One of the smallest colleges. Reputation for having some of the best food and rooms. Students can live in for all three years and accommodation includes the former medieval Mire Inn. The sports facilities are up-to-date and, despite its size, the college is in the first division for many sports. Student view: "A good social mix, and there is no pressure to do or be part of anything, especially anything political. One of the most beautiful libraries in Oxford; it is warm, comfortable and much liked." Famous graduates: John Le Carré, Edward Thomas. Open day: June 21.

MAGDALEN
Oxford OX1 4AU (0865 279000). Undergraduates: 368. Description: Famous for its spacious gardens, deer park, river walks, and the Great Tower. Music and drama societies are flourishing, as is the renowned choir. Strong academic reputation in the arts and is now keen to attract more science candidates. Student view: "The whole social mix encourages a stimulating and tolerant atmosphere. Food is not good or nutritious but it is cheap. Sports facilities excellent but under-used." Famous graduates: Viscount Althorp, Lord Denning, Alan Garner. Open days: No more this summer.

MERTON
Oxford OX1 4JD (0865 276310). Undergraduates: 250. Description: One of the most attractive colleges with a medieval library and the oldest quadrangle in the university. Ninety per cent of all undergraduates are able to live in. Academic, with a reputation for friendliness. Student view: "Active socially and the food is excellent. The rooms are good, with some sets quite palatial. Central heating in only one block, and some rooms can be cold." Famous graduates: Sir Hugh Carlisle, Lord Denning, Alan Garner. Open days: No more this summer.

NEW COLLEGE
Oxford OX1 3BN (0865 248451). Undergraduates: 365. Description: In the centre of Oxford, one of the largest colleges. Gardens lovely and rooms are pleasant. Is trying to encourage applications from women and from State schools. Student view: "Flowing success exemplifies its particular

strength - it offers high standards without obsessiveness. The worst rooms aren't bad and the best are gorgeous." Famous graduates: Tony Benn MP, John Fowles, Nigel Rees. Open days: No more this summer.

ORIEL
Oxford OX1 4EW (0865 276555). Undergraduates: 278. Description: Just off the High Street. One of the smallest colleges. Founded in the 14th Century. Strong sporting reputation, especially in rowing, but the drama and music societies are also popular. Student view: "Mixing academic standard and is tolerant of all political persuasions rather than apathetic. Apathy is not something you will find here. The library is warm and well-lit but many find it too noisy." Famous graduates: Sir Walter Raleigh, A P J Taylor. Open days: June 21.

PEMBROKE
Oxford OX1 1DW (0865 276444). Undergraduates: 325. Description: A medium-sized college with a good social mix and a relaxed atmosphere. Not overtly academic but with a good sporting reputation. Has its own boathouse and playing fields. Student view: "Pembroke students consider it a good all-round place to be and defend its reputation as active and vital. Some of the older rooms are a bit antiquated and expensive to keep warm." Famous graduates: Denzil Davies MP, Rt Hon Michael Heseltine MP. Open days: June 27, 28.

QUEEN'S
Oxford OX1 4AW (0865 279120). Undergraduates: 285. Description: In the heart of Oxford with two 18th Century quads. Strong links with the North and a balanced intake of public and State school leavers. Handsome, small-styled library. Student view: "Students are certainly not paranoid workaholics; academic pressure is not too marked, although the college does get fairly good results and the tutors don't like slacking. Perfect for the average, unpretentious student, wanting a good working environment with plenty of entertainment." Famous graduates: Rowan Atkinson, Brian Walden. Open days: Mon-Weds until June 29.

ST ANNE'S
Oxford OX2 6HS (0865 274800). Undergraduates: 384. Description: Less than a mile from the city centre near the university parks. Quiet, well-

stocked library and a good social mix of students. Freshers are particularly well cared for. Student view: "St Anne's refuses to succumb to the Oxford myth; it is a happy, tolerant and lively college where everyone is made to feel welcome. Rooms vary from the modern to the Victorian but are generally comfortable." Famous graduates: Maria Alken, Edwina Currie.

ST CATHERINE'S
Oxford OX1 3JU (0865 271700). Undergraduates: 412. Description: The most recent college, as well as the largest. Its distinctive modern buildings are situated in Holywell Great Meadow five minutes from the city centre. Good on-site sporting facilities and a growing tradition in music. Student view: "Catz as a whole is down-to-earth and unpretentious. The JCR is very much a social centre and has excellent facilities. Library well-stocked, a good place to work." Famous graduates: John Birt, Simon Winchester. Open days: No more this summer. Individual visits can be arranged.

ST EDMUND HALL
Oxford OX1 4AR (0865 279000). Undergraduates: 358. Description: A blend of ancient and modern architecture. Long sporting tradition and a reputation for friendliness. The fine library is housed in a converted Early English church. Student view: "Music, drama and journalism flourish alongside the continued sporting tradition. The smallness of 'Teddy Hall' encourages its community spirit." Famous graduates: Sir Robin Day, Terry Jones. Open days: June 23, 28, 29.

ST HILDA'S
Oxford OX4 1DY (0865 276884). Undergraduates: 332. Description: One of the two remaining women's colleges. Set in lovely gardens on the banks of the Cherwell. Thriving music society, rowing is very popular and the college has its own punts. Student view: "Whilst it doesn't boast quads or obscure traditions, it is an extremely unpretentious and friendly college away from the pressures of university life." Famous graduates: Kate Millett, Barbara Pym. Open days: June 24, 28.

ST HUGH'S
Oxford OX2 6LE (0865 274900). Undergraduates: 381. Description: Set in beautiful wooded gardens in the north Oxford conservation area. Strong musical tradition and a popular boat club. Keen to encourage more applicants in maths and the sciences.

Student view: "Very friendly and relaxed college and, although the arrival of men (1987) means that the college is changing in many ways, it seems unlikely it will lose its easy-going atmosphere. Academic pressure is not high but most people work fairly hard." Famous graduates: Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Brigadier Brophy, Rt Hon Barbara Castle. Open days: June 27, 28.

ST JOHN'S
Oxford OX1 3JP (0865 277300). Undergraduates: 348. Description: Held to have some of the best facilities in Oxford. All undergraduates can spend three years in college and the sporting amenities include a modern boathouse, a dark room and a well-stocked library. High academic reputation. Student view: "Academic pressure comes from the students rather than from the tutors. The people are sociable and actually quite relaxed. A-grade rooms are fantastic, and even D-grade rooms are of reasonable size." Famous graduates: Kingsley Amis, Philip Larkin. Open days: June 28, July 5.

ST PETER'S
Oxford OX1 3JP (0865 277300). Undergraduates: 271. Description: Founded in 1929, situated close to the city centre. The library, open 22-hours a day, is housed in a handsome Georgian rectory. Reputation for being sociable and relaxed. Student view: "One of Oxford's lesser-known colleges. A benefit of this is that it is not targeted by any particular social grouping. Although not always people's first choice, few, having experienced life here, would rather be anywhere else." Famous graduates: Rev W Audrey, Sir Rex Hunt. Open days: June 28.

SOMERVILLE
Oxford OX2 6HD (0865 279500). Undergraduates: 351. Description: One of the first women's colleges. Remains single-sex and actively encourages applicants from a wide variety of backgrounds. Students have a reputation for enthusiasm. Women's rowing crew is among Oxford's best. Well-stocked 24-hour library. Student view: "Academically has a serious but not unrealistic attitude. You have as good a social life as anyone else, usually going out of college for it, and it's nice to come back to the friendly and informal atmosphere of an all-female college." Famous graduates: Nina Bayden, Margaret Thatcher, Shirley Williams. Open days: June 23.

TRINITY
Oxford OX1 3BH (0865 279500). Undergraduates: 332. Description: Founded in 1509, Trinity is one side of attractive Radcliffe Square. A

Undergraduates: 251. Description: Set in its own spacious gardens close to the centre of Oxford. Comfortable, well-stocked 24-hour library popular for working in. Traditional but friendly. Student view: "The relatively small number of undergraduates make it easy to know everyone. College rooms are reasonably comfortable and most are well-heated." Famous graduates: Terence Ratigan, Jeremy Thorpe. Open days: No more this summer.

UNIVERSITY
Oxford OX1 4BH (0865 278602). Undergraduates: 372. Description: One of the oldest residential colleges in Oxford. University has a high academic reputation, particularly in the sciences. Three libraries and a computer room as well as excellent sporting facilities. Student view: "Known simply as 'Univ', this college combines a consistently strong academic reputation with an ability to get involved in all spheres of university life." Famous graduates: Gordon Honeycombe, Richard Ingrams, Stephen Spender. Open days: Visitors welcome by arrangement.

WADHAM
Oxford OX1 3PN (0865 277940). Undergraduates: 375. Description: Founded in 1610, Wadham is a relatively large college with a balanced social mix. Modern, well-stocked library open 24 hours a day, and a computer room. Student view: "A diverse, vigorous and friendly atmosphere. Academically there are no complaints of excessive pressure. Rooms generally comfortable and spacious. The only complaint about the accommodation is there is not enough of it." Famous graduates: Lindsay Anderson, Melvyn Bragg, Rt Hon Michael Foot. Open days: June 28, 29.

WORCESTER
Oxford OX1 2HB (0865 278300). Undergraduates: 316. Description: Worcester is situated in its own grounds, with a lake and wooded gardens, to the west of the city centre. Thriving music and drama societies and good sporting facilities. Student view: "Worcester has more going for it than just the lake and picturesque surroundings; it has a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Social mix now seems to be changing for the better." Famous graduates: Richard Adams, Alistair Burnet. Open days: June 23.

Compiled by SARA DRIVER

Tomorrow: Nottingham

SPECTRUM

An artist to the guillotine

A year ago, the Auld Alliance seemed in good shape when France commissioned the Scottish artist Ian Hamilton Finlay to produce a memorial for next year's bicentenary of the French Revolution.

Finlay conceived a formal garden for the site in Versailles. It was intended to evoke the three themes of the Revolution: liberty, equality and fraternity. There was to be a single, monumental inscription on the Rights of Man continuing along a series of stones: a Tree of Liberty; and a pond fed by rain water from the roof of an 18th-century building, symbolizing the past nourishing the future.

But, two months ago, as its elections approached, France performed a volte-face and cancelled the project: the political result of a campaign of vilification against Finlay in the French media.

The artist was accused of closet Nazi tendencies, and of

artfile



SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

A weekly look at the art world

sealing evil propaganda into his work. But, as a gentle-spoken, professed left-winger, he claims to represent the opposite. Yesterday his MP, Jimmy Hood, raised the question in the House of Commons. Next week, as Finlay shelters within Little Sparta, his Strathclyde garden home, his wife, Sue, will stage a protest in Paris.

Apart from revealing collective French neuroses, the controversy underlies a more general crisis in our culture. How should we perceive classicism in art? Do columns and inscriptions speak of the ideal, or should they be rejected as Fascist?

The French attack on Finlay started with a work entitled "Osso", now on show at the Tate of the North in Liverpool. This consists of three classically inscribed marble slabs, one bearing its Latin title, its central letters forming lightning flashes in the Nazi SS style. According to the artist, the work is a meditation on terror, nature and death. But all the French saw was "SS".

So suspicious were they that, on March 25, although they had never been to Little Sparta, a number of critics appeared on a French radio programme claiming the garden had swastikas painted on almost every tree. Later that day Francois Leotard, the



Purged by the French for his alleged closet Fascism, Finlay says: 'My work is explicitly anti-Nazi, completely pastoral'

Minister for Culture, cancelled the commission. "It was a performance which would have disgraced Stalinist Russia," Finlay said yesterday. "In all my work there is only one swastika. My work is explicitly anti-Nazi, completely pastoral."

Finlay said that his imagery was an attempt to return to a classical ideal of purity and harmony that is central to Western civilization — the difficulty lying with those people who cannot see through the distortion created by the Nazis and allow the classical ideal back into its rightful place.

And yet there is no denying Finlay's interest in Fascism and his preoccupation with the military. "I am dealing with the imagery of my time. I don't give Apollo a bow but a sub-machine-gun," he said. Apart from such inscriptions as "Terror is the piety of the Revolution", one of the

stranger sights in his Scottish garden is a bird table in the shape of an aircraft carrier. According to Simon Wilson, head of education at the Tate, Finlay is "totally non-political, like all artists actually. If it doesn't question and probe, it is bad. All great art is liable to various inter-

'This would have disgraced Stalinist Russia'

pretations and requires time to digest." But Wilson acknowledges the risks in Finlay's imagery and the problems clouding classicism.

"If you see a work with a Nazi symbol you should think, 'What the hell's this about?' The artist has a right to assume you know he is not a Nazi, but that he is using this image to make some kind of point."

Now Finlay has engaged Jot Nordmann, the lawyer who has represented the Claus Barbie victims, to take on six magazines which he claims have maligned him.

"We won't get any sense from the French until the election is finished," said Louis Biggs, curator of the Finlay display in Liverpool. "Then the minister who was responsible in the first place should give him back his commission and make a public statement. It is a terrible personal tragedy to him apart from the damage to art in general."

SCIENCE REPORT

Shrimps in sunglasses

Shrimps, known as ferocious predators with a form of colour vision probably unique to invertebrates, have now been found to have built-in anti-glare polarizing sunglasses.

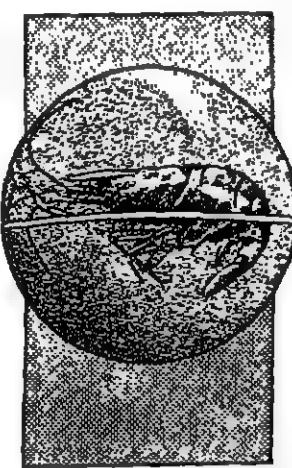
In the latest edition of *Nature*, Justin Marshall of the University of Sussex relates this remarkable faculty of the mantis shrimp, which is already known to have a kind of stereoscopic vision using only one eye.

Mantis shrimp are well known for their pugnacious behaviour. Like their insect namesake, the praying mantis, they have long clawed front legs with which they swipe at prey. Some species can hit prey with a speed of more than 30ft a second only 8 milliseconds after taking aim.

The claw movements are coordinated by the shrimp's remarkable eyes. Mantis shrimp eyes, like those of other crustaceans and arthropods, consist of units called ommatidia, each of them a miniature eye joined like tiles in a mosaic. But mantis shrimp eyes are special: each has a midline strip of six specialized rows of ommatidia, separating the eye into two halves.

The observation that some midline ommatidia contain pigmented oil droplets which act as colour filters had led some to believe the wide range of colours in the drops would allow multicolour vision with just one light-sensitive pigment in the retina. The hope was that the multi-coloured drops would simulate the effect of a range of photosensitive pigments from just one, an unprecedented form of colour vision.

However, the Sussex experiments show that there is more than one light sensitive pigment in the shrimp retina, making it likely that each light-sensitive pigment is paired with a droplet of appropriate colour to enhance colour contrast, an arrangement known in some birds and



PAUL BRYANT

turtles, allowing them to distinguish prey from members of their own species.

The research has also shown that other midline ommatidia are natural sunglasses, adapted to deal with the brilliant glare of polarized light which is common underwater in reflections from shiny surfaces such as fish scales, and from the water surface when viewed from below. This helps avoid dazzle when shrimp are looking for prey.

The same anti-dazzle colour vision also helps mantis shrimps to estimate distance using just one eye. The independently-moving stalked eyes of the mantis shrimp do not always look in the same direction, making the usual kind of binocular vision hazardous at best. So in the mantis shrimp, ommatidia from different parts of the same eye focus on the same point, allowing one-eyed triangulation.

Monocular range-finding is also known in the chameleon, another animal with roving eyes. Even in the brightest light, chameleon pupils are fully dilated, giving the lizard extra precision when licking out its tongue at prey.

Henry Gee

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The closing date for all entries is last post on Friday, June 24, 1988. A prize of a Z88 personal computer will be awarded to the first correct of a Z88 personal computer. The judges' decision is final and no entry opened for each day's question. The winner will be announced in The correspondence will be entered into. The winner will be announced in The

TIMES DIARY

SHERIDAN MORLEY

I am not in any sense anti-Australian. Indeed I once spent an entire postwar year at school there, gaining a bronze medal in shark-avoidance before moving on to what seemed like another whole year in New Zealand which was closed at the time. Since then, both my brother and my sister have taken to living and marrying and working in Sydney, and on the one occasion I did manage to get back there the fish restaurants by the harbour were wonderful. The only real disadvantage was having to sit in an Adelaide quarry through one of Peter Brook's less eventful eight-hour stage epics. "If the actors don't get a move on," as one Australian matron memorably remarked, "we shall be here all night."

It is not Australia's fault that flying there requires a whole day and night in the air, plus another day lost over the international dateline. If you leave here on a Sunday you don't arrive until about the middle of the following Tuesday, which, when you are nearly 48, is quite a worry. One really can't afford to go on losing whole chunks of one's life like that.

It is, however, Australia's fault that getting into the country is considerably harder than getting into Russia or China. I am only going there for a week, to see a show I wrote about Gertrude Lawrence and Noel Coward. But to get into Sydney even for a brief holiday you are solemnly required to trek over to Australia House in the Strand and acquire a form which might then allow you to acquire a temporary entry visa. To have to do this to get into another Commonwealth country is plain ludicrous.

In addition, Australia House appears to be closed for visa applications every afternoon and most weekends. Having got the form, and especially photographed, answered all kinds of difficult questions about whether you can write your name in ethnic script (where applicable and as usual it isn't) you then have to trek back to Australia House between 3 and 4pm, the only time they hand out the visas, hence a forlorn little queue usually winding around the building in pouring rain. The least they could do is build a decent entrance hall and show a few *Crocodile Dundee* videos.

BARRY FANTONI



Neville's bank were going to bid but they were put off by the length of the queue.

In this year's Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy, the portrait of Norman Parkinson holding a golden camera is inscribed by the artist in gold letters right across the top of the canvas "Norman Parkinson holding golden camera." I am all for this: most portraits raise more questions than they answer. Why, for instance, are there two figures of Roy Strong in the Paul Branson portrait? Is he in fact one of twins, or are we meant to assume something more symbolic about divided personalities? Is the rocking chair under William Rees-Mogg the one he used at *The Times*? Can there really be ten bronze busts of Arthur Scargill at £3,600 each, and if so who is going to buy them? Why is The Princess Royal described only as "President of the Knitting and Clothing Export Council", or did the council commission the portrait? And while we're on the subject, over at the Royal Society of Portrait Painters in The Mall why is one of Peter Walker's children dressed from head to foot as a gladiator, and do the D'Amelio family make a habit of sitting around in their front room in full evening dress every night, or only when the painter comes to call? We should be told.

The governors of the National Theatre, presumably still shell-shocked by last week's *Tumbledown* discovery that their new director, Richard Eyre, is likely to be as politically contentious as the outgoing Sir Peter Hall, decided at the weekend that it might encourage future commercial sponsorship and foreign touring dates if the organization was henceforth to be known as the Royal National Theatre.

The idea has a lunacy worthy of Beachcomber: are potential investors and audiences solemnly expected to believe that the word Royal might make a play stronger or a production more attractive? Might it then not be better still to have it renamed the Royal Grand National Victoria Gentlemen's Association Theatre & Sporting Club, in the hope that, as with old tobacco tins and certain upmarket brands of soap, the theatre could be given a suspected historical authenticity for the Japanese?

There is nothing in any way Royal about the National; not even Prince Edward is to be found working backstage. The only reason the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford became Royal was to distinguish it from countless other Shakespearean companies like the one still functioning in Regents Park.

Perhaps the greatest joy of being arts editor of *Punch* has been working these last ten years with Dilys Powell who, in her early eighties, is not only our greatest living film critic but also the only one who must have reviewed *Birth of a Nation* on its first general release. On Saturday Miss Powell fell down in Waterloo Station and broke her leg: she is, therefore, now in the Westminster Hospital, a good deal of plaster, and a certain amount of pain. Most of us at that age in that situation might begin to think about some sort of retirement. The most she has suggested to me is a couple of weeks away from her column. The sooner we name a cinema in her honour the better.

The Government, we are told, is about to announce plans for altering the system of student support without waiting for a report on the subject that has for two years taken up the time of successive junior ministers for higher education. Can this be done without deciding how many students the country actually needs? So far, we have managed to avoid this question.

The "Robbins" principle that entrance to higher education should depend upon the number of those obtaining a necessarily arbitrary standard of achievement has been qualified by limitations on the actual numbers universities (and, to a lesser extent, polytechnics) are allowed to admit. But free choice of subjects of study irrespective of national need has still prevailed. Now, however, demography has caught up with us. In the 1990s, the number of 18-year-olds will fall to a mere two-thirds of its peak level in the early 1980s.

The almost automatic expansion which has brought the total numbers up to near the million mark with close to two-thirds of the total numbers in full-time courses will come to an end. So that entry standards will have to be lowered, making the traditional three-year degree course difficult to teach, or new groups will have to be brought in.

Since Britain is already ahead of most advanced industrial

Max Beloff calls for a radical change in our attitudes to students

Investing in education

countries in respect of admission of women, it is new age groups and new social classes that must come into play; and this also has financial implications.

Were it not for this fact, it could be argued that Britain's failure to develop a more coherent policy has not worked out too badly. Its poor participation rate compared with some other countries is compensated for by its much lower "wastage" rate. Britain has more graduates per head of population than Germany, the Netherlands or Italy.

Nor so far has a free choice of subject acted against the national interest. Britain with 16 per cent of its graduates in engineering is ahead of the field. It is at the secondary level that Britain falls so far behind Germany and Japan — we lack technicians rather than technologists.

If investment in higher education is looked at in terms of the proportion of GNP spent upon it, the figures suggest that while Britain is behind the USA and the Netherlands, it spends more than France, Germany, Italy or Japan. But striking differences

make themselves apparent when one looks at student maintenance and welfare. International comparisons are again difficult because of the different modes of subsidy.

Britain and Italy give grants; Germany and Japan loans; France, the Netherlands and the United States a mixture of the two. Again, while higher education in Europe is overwhelmingly state-provided both the United States and Japan have very important private sectors.

Even so, the disparities are striking. In 1983, the UK spent £940 per student, the Netherlands £330 and the United States £260. This compares with £200 for Germany, £170 for France and a mere £30 for Japan. The United Kingdom thus has a uniquely expensive system of student support — the main change in recent years having been the growing importance of housing benefit paid to nearly 40 per cent of students.

Britain's unique position has deep historical roots. Alone in Europe, it maintained its medieval pattern of universities. Poor

but promising young men were sent away to study at residential universities to prepare themselves for service to church and state. They were joined after the Renaissance by members from the upper and middle classes destined for secular careers.

The same pattern was reproduced in the older American universities. But in continental Europe and the United States, the expansion in the 19th and 20th centuries has been on the basis that most students would attend universities in their home town — living and travel costs did not arise and public expenditure was largely for academic purposes. But in England — less so in Scotland — the old system was superimposed on the new.

One still went away to university — even from one's neighbourhood with a university of its own to another. When it was decided that the state should bear most of the costs of higher education it accepted the liability to perpetuate these habits. To live with one's parents or (like the Americans) to "work one's way through college" was unacceptable.

Indeed, the parental contribution to maintenance was paid (or up to 40 per cent evaded) by parents who could much more cheaply have housed and fed their offspring at home.

Two conclusions follow. Expansion is unlikely to be countenanced if the present system continues unchanged. And the mere partial substitution of a loan element for part of the grant which could produce only marginal savings would not substantially alter the picture. One needs to go for something more radical.

One essential would be that fees should reflect the real academic costs of the education received so that what was being offered to students would be fully apparent. An element of competitiveness could be introduced by allowing universities to set their own fees.

Student support — national, local, or through sponsorship — should be geared not to an undifferentiated mass of 18-year-olds, but to a society in which many people would want

entry into higher education at a later age and not just once but, perhaps, several times in the course of a working life.

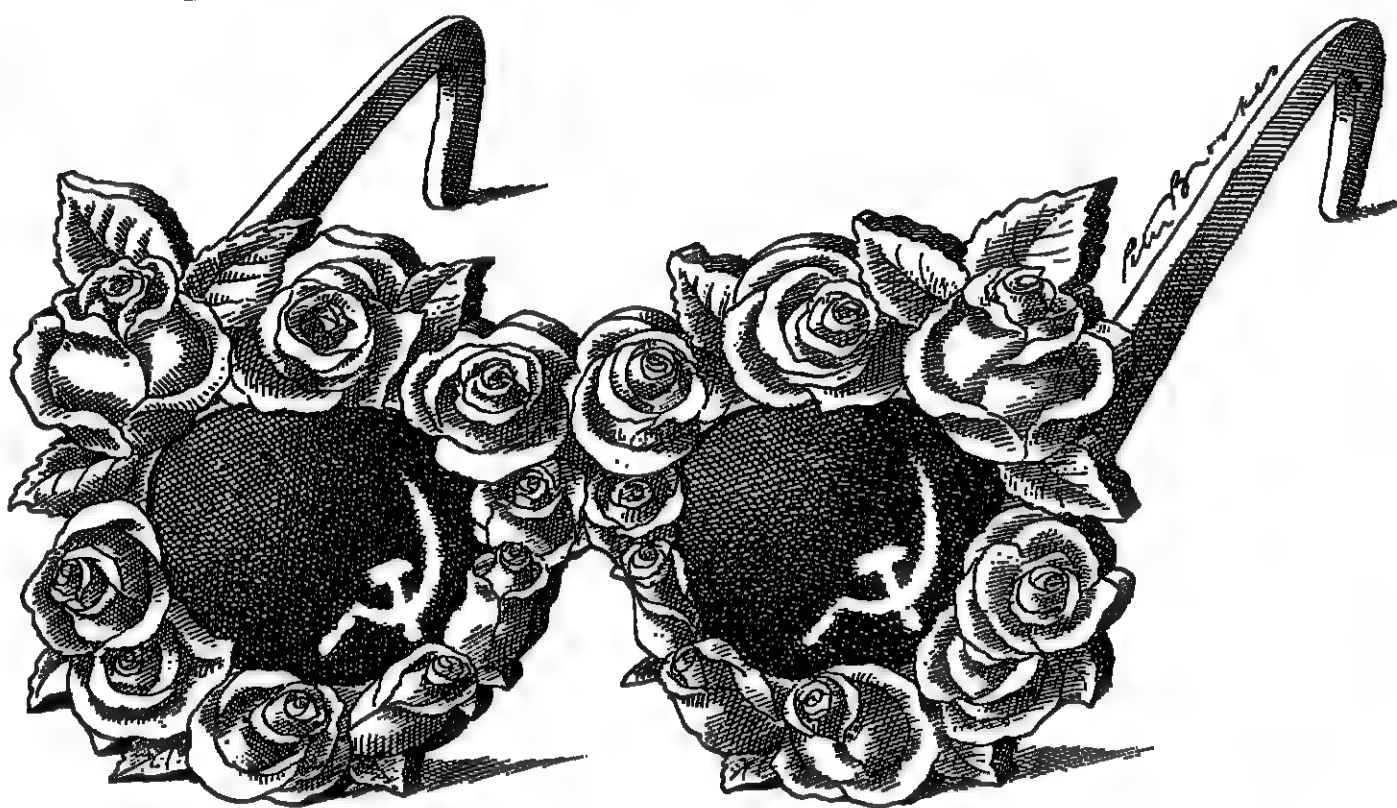
Finally, a loan system for maintenance must take account of the fact that a principal reason why people seek higher education is to increase their prospects of higher earnings, in which they are normally successful. The days when the NUS could seriously budget for students' "needs" in beer and cigarettes to be met from the taxpayers' purse must be over.

Serious as they are, the financial, administrative and, above all, political obstacles to such a radical change, it is perhaps the psychological aspect that presents the most problems. The Americans and the Japanese clearly believe that education is the key to success in life. Ninety-two per cent of Japanese parents pay for their children to continue with secondary education after free schooling ends at the age of 15. The British are not possessed of the same convictions and are much less willing to invest in education for themselves, their children or their employees.

Unless this attitude changes, mere alterations in the system will fail to meet the national need. Lord Beloff, a Conservative life peer since 1981, was formerly Gladstone Professor of Government and Public Administration at Oxford.

Bernard Levin

Do you recall Kolaigu?



record of the carnage; he also compiled a dossier of eye-witness accounts. The result, it seems, is the most complete and detailed report, with the hardest evidence, of any Soviet action since the invasion of Afghanistan in 1979. And what follows? Well, what precedes is the commentary of *The Observer* correspondent who, in Pakistan, put together the story and sent it for publication. Listen to this:

"For some officers and men of the Red Army the long road home from Afghanistan could lead to disgrace before an international war crimes tribunal... These pictures... along with eye-witness accounts... to begin building a detailed case against the individual soldiers... the word 'Kolaigu' could take its place beside My Lai in the haunting lexicon of... atrocities... at least four articles of the 1949 Geneva Convention... appear to have been

breached... The question that will haunt Gorbachev's 'year of peace' is whether these images of carnage will allow the world to forget the name 'Kolaigu'."

That must hold the record for the shortest-lived prophecy in history. For the world has already forgotten the name of Kolaigu, and the massacre will not lead to disgrace for the killers, and Kolaigu will not take its place beside My Lai, and at least four hundred and forty-four articles of the Geneva Convention may have been breached by the Soviet troops without any danger of retribution.

You will remember the picture of a man being shot in cold blood in Vietnam; he was a Viet Cong soldier and was killed by a South Vietnamese officer. I say "you will remember" with considerable confidence because no one could count the number of times the scene has been shown on television; it was, over the

years, forced into our minds' eyes until we could not forget it, and whenever a producer wanted a handy bit of anti-Americanism, he would reach for the film. (I made a remarkable discovery some time ago: the picture has been ground into us with an accompanying fallacy, for when discussing the subject I have found that many people who instantly recall it when it is mentioned have recalled it with an American as the killer.) I have not seen any of the pictures of Kolaigu on British television, though they may well have been shown (at least if Sandy Gall or Nigel Ryan has had anything to do with it), but I am quite sure that, even if the scene has been shown, it will not be constantly repeated over the next dozen years. And the obvious question is: why? Why is this weird imbalance so pronounced that My Lai now has a permanent place in history (and so it should) though Kolaigu and what happened there disappeared without

trace in a fortnight? Why are our enemies regularly acquitted before even being charged, while our friends are treated as guilty until they can prove themselves innocent, whereupon they continue to be treated as guilty?

I have sought to analyse the basic form of this tilted equation, and I think I have found the pattern, though I am as lost as ever when it comes to asking why the pattern takes the form it does. Take a reasonably sceptical man or woman, with moderate political views and a firm belief in democracy, to the Soviet Union and South Africa. You will find, again and again, that a statement made by a Soviet official about his country will be accepted without demur whereas a parallel, or even exactly the same, statement in South Africa is (rightly of course) taken on probation at best until cross-checking can be undertaken. The naivety of so much matter from the Soviet Union, especially on television, would be at once

recognized — recognized, that is, by the naive ones themselves. I recall a trivial but representative example from some years ago: a distinguished educationist went to the Soviet Union and was shown round the educational system. Writing after her return, she said, "Any teacher who strikes a child is immediately dismissed". Quite possibly; she had, however, absolutely no means of knowing whether the claim was true or not, yet it was not even attributed to the official who told her; it was made from her own mouth as a statement of fact. Nowhere else in the world would she have accepted such a claim without at least a "they say", or "I was assured".

Only the other day, in *The Guardian*, there was a man comparing Mr Gorbachev to both St John and St Paul: "... the moral aspect is seen to be something more profound than a general ethic of honesty or social responsibility... like a roll call of the Christian virtues... The degree of spiritual force that Gorbachev intends is reinforced and put beyond question... it is clear that he is more than a social reformer or even a peacemaker of rare stature... Now what chance has sense got when a man is teetering on the brink of equating Gorbachev with Christ? Haven't we learnt anything from all the gulls who, with the best of intentions, decided that Stalin was a great, lovable, humane, all-wise, fatherly, freedom-loving democrat?

The answer to that last question is: some haven't, and never will. They may not deny Kolaigu, nor condone it; they probably won't even say, as their fathers did, you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs. They will simply make haste to forget it, some of them within a fortnight. I am sorry for the young Afghan who took the Kolaigu pictures and saw his people slaughtered around him, but I have to tell him that he has heard the last of it.

Commentary • RONALD BUTT

Deserving of thought

Constructive discussion requires a clear definition of terms. But definition is often inconvenient. In the social argument between leftish and episcopal opinion and the Government, "the poor" generally means what the user wishes. It is a relative and highly emotive term which imports its own flavour into any proposition and conjures up rival mental pictures in the subconscious minds of the two opposing opinions.

To those who unquestioningly think the poor ill-used by Thatcherism, they are invariably deserving victims either of the rich or of circumstances beyond their own control. People on this side of the argument must know that some of the problems of the poor arise from degrees of fecklessness. But they would think it improper to recognize this in their rhetoric.

In the disbursement of social benefits, the poor are, rightly, always assessed according to the situation they are in, regardless of how they got there. To try to evaluate broader circumstances would lead to unacceptable and subjective bureaucratic judgements. But this is no reason why the realities should not be more honestly faced and discussed by the politicians when arguing about broad lines of policy.

To take one example, the benefits system cannot distinguish between the need of a young widow with three children, a divorced woman in the same case and a young woman with children but with no man to pay paternity's contribution. There are about 250,000 in the

"never married" category. All receive top-up benefits after account is taken of whatever may be supplied by a liable man. But the lives of some "never married" women are such that there is no established male liability.

Moreover, because so many men who are liable avoid their responsibility to pay, the state pays the unpaid amount due on court orders, theoretically trying to recoup it from the man. But such are the burdens on local benefits offices that recouping is more often theory than practice.

This is only one simple instance of the way in which the state now picks up the bill for individual irresponsibility and by doing so helps to encourage it in both men and women. Society cannot turn aside from the children of feckless parents but this is no reason for failing to acknowledge the problem. Yet episcopal and leftish opinion would not think such inquiry food for respectable thought, having ceased to regard individual responsibility as a very practicable option.

Thatcherite thinking is clearer. Implicitly recognizing that there are deserving and less deserving poor, it believes that by modifications of the social service system, it can diminish unwarranted calls on it. For instance, instead of now presenting an unemployed school-leaver of 16-17 with pocket money of £19.40 a week the state gives him the option of the YTS scheme (which pays rather more) or staying at school. The recent social security changes have the

same general purpose of propelling into responsibility many who have previously been trapped into dependency, freeing resources which can be applied to the really deserving poor.

But Thatcherite thinking also has its blind spots. It sometimes seems to be conditioned by a subliminal and idealised picture of a whole nation of naturally self-reliant people, all improving their circumstances by their own efforts with the state standing by to help those smitten by disaster outside their control.

Yet there will always remain some for whom fecklessness is itself a kind of natural disability but who must still be helped. Society has recognized an obligation to them from the medieval monasteries to the welfare state. That cannot change, but it is no reason for shrinking from candid analysis of the facts and the causes of poverty in contemporary culture.

In a speech yesterday, Mr John Moore, the Secretary for Health and Social Security, spoke of the dependency culture in which "benefits are the incentives and, like all incentives, shape behaviour." He defended his recent social security changes as remedies. Yet ill-understood piecemeal reforms justified by general slogans are not enough.

There should, for one thing, be an honest examination of the extent to which the Government's general tax and social policies diminish family and personal responsibility. Moreover, just as Mrs Thatcher should be explicit about recognizing the moral problems

raised by the obligation to the underserving poor, so Mr Kinnock and the bishops, conceding that the state can encourage poverty and dependence, should join in thinking how to reform the dependency culture. They should also accept that the criteria for addressing poverty should be different from those for considering the proper running and non-inflationary financing of the health, pension and education services prescribed (but not necessarily managed) by the state, despite a common redistributive element. They should cease wrapping up the lot in a blanket accusation.

Generalized statements that are delicate with the truth are not enough. What is needed is an open and public fact-finding inquiry into poverty. It would be better done by a Commons committee of all opinions than by a government committee of Whitehall-selected safe members of the great and the good.

The individual and the state complement each other. The state fulfils the duty of society in general to care for the individual in need, though this still leaves an important and warm role for giving by private individuals working charitably and enthusiastically for others. One thing, however, must inform the thinking of any honest on-the-ground inquiry into the facts of poverty. When the state tempts the individual to allow it to take over responsibility for the things that most closely concern himself and his family, it removes the principal stimulus for responsible living.

JUNE 9 ON THIS DAY 1815



The stamp duty on newspapers was not abolished until 1855. The newspaper stamp that took its place was discontinued in 1870.

TAX ON NEWSPAPERS

To our surprise and astonishment we find, that the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, notwithstanding the low and unintelligible tone in which he uniformly speaks on this subject, as if he were really ashamed of it, still perseveres in the resolution for imposing this very obnoxious and prejudicial tax. It is the nature of things impossible, that the revenue should not be greatly injured by it, the sale of newspapers seriously checked, and public information in a great measure prevented.

Let us ask Mr VANSITTART, where he, where the Ministers, where the country would have been in the late war but for the press? Was it not necessary to the very existence of social order, that the hopes and the confidence of the nation should be daily invigorated; that fair and candid expositions of our danger, and our means of defence, should be laid before the public; that vast and appalling events should be carefully reduced in recital to their true dimensions; that the artful misstatements of the enemy should be checked, and his sophistries detected? These important services to the cause of humanity were rendered by the British Press.

And do those who were most benefited by its exertions, now turn their backs upon it, regardless whether it may be able to struggle under its new burthens, or be wholly crushed? We say again, the Press cannot maintain its present honourable utility if it is subjected to this vexatious, and inconsiderate, and unproductive taxation; and we earnestly call upon the enlightened members of the legislature to interpose and prevent these inconsiderate resolutions from being carried into effect. The danger, we apprehend, is not chimerical. Two papers have already given public notice, that they must decline publication in case the tax takes place. We beg the attention of our readers to this fact; and we are certain, that this example must be speedily followed by others.

Were we capable of an exclusive attention to our own selfish interests, we should, perhaps, applaud and encourage the minister in his blindness. "Go on," we should say: "ruin all the inferior establishments, and then the larger ones will enjoy a monopoly, and may raise their prices as high as they will. It is true, that the nation at large will be kept in a state of ignorance as to public affairs; it is true that commerce and the common concerns of life, will meet with innumerable checks and inconveniences: it is true, that the revenue will fall short; that the sale will be curtailed, that newspapers will be fewer, and more meagre, and unimportant; but our monopoly and our high prices will secure a profit to ourselves individually, and therefore we need not trouble ourselves about the short sightedness of the Minister, or the ruin of our contemporaries, or the inconvenience to the public."



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

A BIGGER MARKET

The battle for control of Rowntree has convinced almost everyone that the first big impact of the move towards a single European market will come in the market for companies rather than the market for goods. Long before 1992, the status of British companies in the new era of Europe-wide competition will have been determined, in many sectors, by a spate of mergers and takeovers. The plight of Britain's two biggest chocolate manufacturers — still forbidden to join forces but prey to ambitious overseas rivals — is an augury of battles ahead in many industries. A policy response is needed.

The Confederation of British Industry, at least, is now clear what response it wants the Government to make. Last night, Sir Trevor Holdsworth, its new president, chose his first policy speech to launch the CBI's most direct attack yet on British merger policy. Looking beyond Europe, he urged that Britain needed to create a series of industrial giants big enough to rank alongside their largest rivals in world markets.

The CBI's leaders have traditionally championed big mergers and the freedom to buy up their competitors in the pursuit of efficiency — except when they are themselves threatened by takeover. That is why Lord Young, like his predecessors at the DTI, has insisted on judging mergers by their effect on competition. That will continue to be the case. But Sir Trevor has a point. In the European context, there is a danger that British companies will be at a disadvantage. More generally, the effects on competition need to be judged more clearly in the context of the market, whether that is the world or a small part of Wales.

The present rules have certainly introduced distortions. There have been merger booms in Britain. But they have favoured the creation of huge conglomerate businesses, which avoid adverse effects on competition in any one sector but rarely create dynamic companies capable of leading the world in product development and marketing. In France and Italy, in contrast, policy has been geared to

creating big national companies, often favouring home industry over the consumer. That is not always the best policy — as British exercises in industrial planning like the old British Leyland demonstrated.

At the same time, there is a much more open market for control of companies through the stock market in Britain than in any other European Community country. Continental groups can exploit that openness — and the lack of commitment of City shareholding institutions — to buy up their British rivals and potential European competitors. British companies do not have comparable freedom in other European capital markets and are too often prevented from using the openness of the British market because of the immediate effect on domestic competition.

The battle for Rowntree is an example of a cross-border merger. As soon as the competitive effects of such mergers are judged at community level, the better. New proposals for a community merger-vetting policy will come before the Council of Ministers on June 22 and Britain should make its support clear, even if time is needed to get the details right. Merger vetting should, in particular, pay attention to companies' desire to stifle potential competition by taking over their rivals in other community countries.

British companies should not have *carte blanche* to take over their domestic rivals. The urge to create monopoly power is as strong as ever. Judgement should, however, be suited more closely to the effective market, on the necessary assumption that the single European market will become a reality. The market for bricks is predominantly local while aircraft manufacturers compete in a world market. The distinctions are rarely so clear-cut. But British policy needs to recognize this dilemma. Provided there are no barriers to potential foreign competition, it should be sympathetic to the ambitions of strong British companies, whether within Europe or the wider international market.

THE DUTY TO KNOW

Pregnant women are routinely tested for various conditions and diseases, some serious, some not; but they are not tested for the presence of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). In a letter to *The Times* this week, Professor Philip Rhodes suggested that such a test could be as much in the interests of the patient as in the interests of anyone else. What stands in the way of this, he said, was not a medical objection, but a social one.

The social objection to which he referred has three aspects. First, Aids still carries a stigma, no matter how many millions of pounds have been spent on advertising to reduce it. Even to suggest the possibility that a patient should submit to a test is thought by many to cast doubt on a person's reputation. If Aids tests were routine, however, as they already are for syphilis, no such aspersion would be implied.

At present, all who admit to having taken an Aids test may find themselves discriminated against when they apply, for instance, for life insurance. While HIV victims should not be discriminated against in general, insurance companies must be entitled to refuse cover where life expectancy is likely to depart substantially from the norm — provided the evidence has been properly assessed. At present, the test itself is taken as the criterion. If testing were routine, this pre-judgement would have to cease.

Second, there is a view that the only thing worse than having Aids is knowing that you have it. But lack of such knowledge does not just prevent the victim from taking appropriate precautions to avoid infecting others. It also hampers those responsible for the patient's medical care. The presence of HIV is likely to shape the treatment selected. In the specific case of pregnant women, the number likely to be HIV positive is not large. But it is reasonable to assume that a pregnant mother would favour any test which might improve her treatment or that of her baby.

The third argument derives from the

concept of civil liberties: whether a person has Aids is his — or her — private business, and others have no right to such information. After all, they might not use it for the benefit of the individual concerned. Perhaps there is such a right as "the right not to know", but can there be such a right where others, perhaps many others, could be infected?

In any testing for Aids, normal clinical confidentiality would have to apply, as would the normal exceptions to it. Doctors have already been advised to breach confidentiality to the extent of informing the spouses of Aids sufferers. It cannot be denied that the consequences of such knowledge are likely to be devastating, both for the individual and for immediate relatives. The announcement of a positive HIV test will be the beginning of a life of anguish and suffering.

To minimize that anguish, the necessary services will have to offer their support. Where pregnant women are concerned, a positive test will be a double tragedy: the usually happy circumstance of a pregnancy will be turned to sorrow. But none of this strengthens the case for wilful ignorance.

It would be to everyone's advantage if knowledge about HIV were more readily available. Doctors and others who may be exposed to Aids in clinical and surgical practice should not be inhibited in the operating theatre or delivery room by fear of Aids. But nor should patients be inhibited by the fear that their doctor might be HIV positive.

The only answer is to test everyone routinely for Aids when their blood is being tested for clinical reasons, whether during pregnancy or for the treatment of injury or disease. Not to screen for HIV while screening for less pathogenic organisms is illogical and irresponsible. As Professor Rhodes emphasized, social attitudes must change. The "social" objections, in so far as they have weight, must give way before the truth that Aids could become an epidemic without precedent.

BACK TO THE LAND

A contented landholding peasantry is regarded as one of the best bulwarks against revolution. In the Philippines, land reform has been seen as Mrs Aquino's potentially most effective weapon in her battle against Communist insurgency. The Bill she is due to sign into law this week may strengthen her hold on power.

So far, the Army has succeeded in containing the insurgency, and the prospects of a Communist march to power are still remote, but large areas are effectively out of government control, and renewed instability at the centre would give them new strength. The Army for its part, despite the reforms introduced by General Ramos, is still bloated and riven with internal disputes.

The Communists draw most of their support from the impoverished countryside, and the Peasants Movement (KMP), which has been agitating for land reform, has been seen as linked to them. The proposed reform should both lessen rural discontent and, perhaps, encourage the return of the KMP to a position of broad support for President Aquino.

Land reform was also a main plank in the political platform she proposed before she took power two years ago, and in the elections which confirmed her in office. The present programme is an important sign of good faith.

Already, however, the reforms have been criticized as inadequate. Criticism has focused on the relatively high ceilings on land that can still be held, the high levels of compensation — still to be held, the high levels of compensation — in 25 per cent in cash — and the exemptions. In recent months, landowners are reported to have been reorganizing themselves into corporations in an attempt to keep their land.

The time frame for the reform — 10 years — and limits on properties come into

frustrate implementation. President Aquino has been accused of over-sensitivity to the interests of the landowners, the traditional ruling group from which her own family comes.

But President Aquino is not and cannot be a revolutionary of the sort who would call on the peasantry to rise and dispossess their masters. She came to power as a result of compromise between different social groups, and it is by compromise that she will continue in power. The new law is a compromise between the House of Representatives, largely occupied by the landowners who dominate the local constituencies, and the Senate, which is elected nationally. This is the parliamentary reality with which President Aquino, as a democratic leader, has to work.

One serious question hanging over the reform is whether the largest landowners will simply be able to frustrate it, as they have on previous occasions where land reforms have been attempted. The other question is whether the state will be able to pay the 8.5 billion dollars of compensation which seems to be envisaged. This is where the United States could be of great assistance.

Economic aid to less developed countries has often gained a bad name. There is a tendency for it to be siphoned off for corruption, political pay-offs, or simply to be lost through mismanagement. Financial aid for a relatively narrow purpose — like compensation to landowners — should be much easier to monitor and control. If US aid were earmarked for this purpose, it would probably be the most effective aid the United States could provide, both to strengthen Mrs Aquino's experiment in democratic government and curb the spread of communism.

Soviet denial of entry visas

From Mr A. P. Stock
Sir, Soviet spokesmen were critical of President Reagan's outspoken remarks on human rights in the Soviet Union and his meeting with refuseniks and dissidents (report, May 30). These were said to be in "bad taste". Mr Gorbachev suggested that the subject of human rights should be left for discussion by international experts and legislators.

Within the same week, delegates to a seminar in Moscow hosted jointly by the International Bar Association and the Association of Soviet Lawyers were surprised to learn that a number of their learned colleagues were refused entry visas to attend the conference (report, June 2) and others — mainly from Israel — while not being refused visas, did not receive them either.

After protests from many quarters and a threat from the IBA to cancel the session on "peace and human rights", visas were eventually forthcoming for four prominent British lawyers and an acknowledged expert on international human rights law at Tel Aviv University.

However, 15 Israeli lawyers were left stranded in London without hope of attending the conference to which they had been invited. This can hardly be calculated to ease the current diplomatic dance between the USSR and Israel.

The Soviet authorities have shown themselves at their most fickle. One can only speculate as to their reasons for such behaviour. What is beyond doubt, however, is that it remains singularly inappropriate for any Western government to take up the Soviet offer of holding a conference on human rights and humanitarian affairs in Moscow unless the promises of *perestroika* are translated into concrete actions.

Yours sincerely,
A. P. STOCK
(Vice-chairman, Manchester Council for Soviet Jewry),
Harold Stock & Co,
55/57 Stamford Street,
Mosley,
Aston-under-Lyne, Lancashire,
June 7.

Rowntree bids

From Lord Seeborn
Sir, As I write I do not know whether the hostile bids for Rowntree have succeeded or not, but we have been warned that this may not be an isolated case when a company that has taken a long view is being snapped up just when its foresight and enterprise is beginning to bear fruit.

Today I suggested in the House of Lords that consideration should be given to an amendment to the Financial Services Act so that in the event of a hostile bid, fund managers should seek the approval of their board (or trustees) as the case may be before accepting the offer or selling their shares, which usually amounts to the same thing. And further, that these boards or trustees should not come to a decision before consultation with the directors of the company that is subject to the attack.

This in no way restricts the powers of shareholders to buy or to sell, but gives time for proper consideration to be given to the interests of the company, and the nation, before a decision is taken. It would hopefully be the end of the "dawn raid" which I consider an abomination.

Although I received no encouragement from the minister, I believe there is massive support for my proposed amendment.

Yours faithfully,
SEEBORN,
House of Lords,
June 7.

Screening consent

From Dr G. J. G. Rees
Sir, Dr Lee of Bupa is reported as saying (Health Page, June 2) that it is important that people understand the odds before they go for screening. Indeed, prospective participants should be told the approximate absolute chance that they will benefit from any screening procedure and also the chance that they will be disadvantaged by it through unnecessary anxiety and the physical effects of the procedure and other investigations which may be set in train.

They should be told of the evidence for efficacy of any screening procedure in reducing morbidity or mortality and they should be told that a clear screen is no guarantee of freedom of disease.

Would not respect for their autonomy and the avoidance of exploitation be best served by asking prospective participants to give their informed written consent?

Yours faithfully,
GARETH J. G. REES,
46 Clifton Park Road,
Clifton, Bristol.

Gleneagles dispute

From the Laird of Gleneagles
Sir, Your report of May 28 concerning the dispute between my family and the proprietors of the Gleneagles Hotel over the falsely designated "Gleneagles Mark Phillips Equestrian Centre" fails to take account of several important issues.

Professor Alistair Inglis's view — that my family's right to the exclusive use of the name, Gleneagles, in isolation, is "unlikely to stand up in law" — is not

Safeguards for the jury system

From Mr John Sacher
Sir, From time to time a particular case rightly gives rise to a round of indignation about the jury system. We should, however, not just be worried about the intimidation of jurors.

It is not an uncommon event for a group on a jury, certainly more than the permissible minority of two, to express the strongest bias. A specific case, on which I served as a juror, concerning drug dealing involved four jurors who had unfavourable memories of dealing with the police, although there was no evidence of any of them having been convicted of either felony or misdemeanour. All claimed that all police evidence was lies.

To this, one has to add a problem that lies with the judges themselves. When you are on the receiving end as a juror, it sounds as though their directions are designed primarily to get through the business. This demands, correctly, first unanimity, and second, equally correctly, a majority verdict. However, when the weak on a jury, and there always are weak members of a jury, are faced with a decision they tend to go with an unbending biased minority, because that is what they seem to have been told to do.

There is no assistance or guidance available to the juror who thinks he has experienced something improper. In my own experience, jury bailiffs, if you approach them, are more likely to "allow" the person who raises the issue to return to his own place of work rather than face the problem that has been raised. Furthermore, again from my own experience, judges present a severe mien to juries which fail to deliver verdicts one way or the other.

Albeit that it extends in a costly manner the work of the courts, the one safeguard that still exists is for members of a jury not to reach a decision. It remains an unsatisfactory safeguard as it gives nobody a solution, and it is one of which the courts do their best to render juries unaware.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SACHER,
Michael House,
Baker Street, W1,
June 6.

Pension surpluses

From Mr Paul Tunbridge
Sir, The letter from Mr Bernstein, consulting actuary (May 28), concerning distribution of any surplus in company pension schemes emphasizes the necessity for an employee to negotiate the terms of both pay and pensions at the time the pension scheme is set up or when an individual joins a company.

There can be no doubt of the soundness of this advice. However, in the case of pensions for the Armed Forces, increases in pay do not automatically lead to increases in pensions as a terminal-salary scheme. In fact, pay and pensions are increased on the basis of periodical reviews and the introduction of new scales or "codes", which up to the present have not been retrospective even where major anomalies are known to exist.

Teachers' burdens

From Dr J. B. L. Bard
Sir, You point (leading article, June 2) to the importance of proper support for head teachers. Let me endorse it. I serve as a parent representative on a school council in Edinburgh and, when appointed, I looked forward to discussing educational policy, questions of assessment and the raising of standards with the eight primary and secondary head teachers who also sit on the council. We do not do this because we have time only to discuss administrative and financial problems and how to circumvent them.

A recent burden has been added to those non-teaching demands that consume ever more of the head teachers' time. Free milk is now given only to children whose parents receive benefit, the others pay a subsidised 4p. Unfortunately, teachers, parents and children often do not know whether, when and by whom the 4p should be paid, how much milk should be ordered, how it should be dispensed and who can cover any discrepancy.

Because there is no one else who will do it, head teachers now have to spend their valuable time organising and accounting for a system which saves relatively little money. They cannot believe that the powers that be were so foolish as to effect the changes without working through the administrative implications or that they can have so little respect for head teachers and their abilities.

PM and prelates

From Mr Andrew Behrend
Sir, Your leading article (June 1) on the open letter by the Anglican Board of Social Responsibility to Mrs Thatcher seemed to show a bias every bit as unthinking as that which you attribute to the Bishop of Gloucester *et al*.

Apparently, we are to take it that the absence of any emphasis on social and community responsibility in her speech to the Church of Scotland was simply due to her not seeing fit to mention it at that particular time, presumably because she did not see it as being relevant or important enough in that context.

But considering that much of the Church leaders' disquiet over Thatcherite policy stems from what, in their eyes, is a neglect of such an emphasis, and considering

Health care in human terms

From his Honour Alan King-Hamilton, QC
Sir, Your leading article "Judge and jury" (June 3) and Mr Spencer's letter (June 6) lead me to point out that the safest place for a jury is immediately below a real public "gallery" from which it is impossible to see the jury, as in Court 2 at the Old Bailey.

But even then, they might be seen by relatives or friends of the defendants unless these are confined to the rear two rows of the block immediately to the right (from the judge's point of view) of the dock, or behind the dock.

If courts could be designed or altered in this way, there would be less jury nobbling.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN KING-HAMILTON,
Royal Air Force Club,
128 Piccadilly, W1.

From Mr Nick Goss
Sir, A 1974 leading article in *The Times* was highly critical of the introduction of majority verdicts, saying that this action was "not rational reform" but "fumbling in the dark". The concept of a majority verdict was an attack on the fundamental principle of English law that guilt must be proved beyond reasonable doubt.

If even one or two members of the jury dissent, it is not enough to show that there is reasonable doubt as to the guilt of the accused? It is, of course, within the actual nature of the unanimity rule that a jury is exposed to the likelihood of bribery or, as in the Leeds case, intimidation. Yet this weakness has always existed; in the vast majority of cases where there has been a dissenting jury member, it is more likely to reflect the difficulties of the case rather than the perversities of a juror.

Surely in the few cases, such as trials of professional criminals, where jurors are liable to bribery, or in the instant case intimidation, cannot we introduce tighter security for our jurors, instead of, as Lord Denning suggests ("Safeguarding trial by jury", June 3), reducing the majority verdict from 10 to two, to nine to three.

Yours faithfully,
N. GOSS,
2 Chatsworth Gardens,
New Malden, Surrey.

Although officers or servicemen do not contribute directly to their pensions, a deduction of about 10 per cent is made on comparators' earnings in calculating military salaries and hence pensions.

While the views of the Officers' Pensions Society and the more recently constituted Forces Retirement Association are taken into account by the Government review bodies, where the system is basically unfair in relation to private pension schemes is that the officer or serviceman has no official means of making his views known on the award or amount of his pension — based on terminal rank and length of service — either before, during or after service.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL TUNBRIDGE,
30 avenue Kreig,
1208 Geneva, Switzerland,
May 29.

pay a subsidised 4p. Unfortunately, teachers, parents and children often do not know whether, when and by whom the 4p should be paid, how much milk should be ordered, how it should be dispensed and who can cover any discrepancy.

Because there is no one else who will do it, head teachers now have to spend their valuable time organising and accounting for a system which saves relatively little money. They cannot believe that the powers that be were so foolish as to effect the changes without working through the administrative implications or that they can have so little respect for head teachers and their abilities.

Yours sincerely,
JONATHAN BARD,
26 Howard Place,
Edinburgh 3,
June 2.

that there was a clear opportunity to ease their anxieties, it does appear to be significant that this side of the coin did not get a mention.

It is natural that the Bishop of Gloucester should have regarded the absence of it in Mrs Thatcher's speech as being somewhat conspicuous. There are times, as Thomas More's prosecutor is supposed to have argued, when someone's silence on a particular matter can be most revealing. In any case it might well be asked whether your leader writer had forgotten her much quoted statement that "there is no such thing as society, only individuals..."

Yours,
ANDREW BEHREND,
New Rocklands,
Rocklands Lane,
Thornton House,
Wirral, Merseyside.

the degree of inconvenience and offence caused to me and my family for 64 years, and of the undertaking given many years ago by the then proprietors of the hotel that the name "Gleneagles" would never be used without the addition of the word "Hotel", he would surely have desisted from adding to it.

Yours sincerely,
ALEXANDER CHINNERY,
HALDANE OF GLENEAGLES
(27th Laird of Gleneagles),
Gleneagles,
Auchterarder,
Perthshire.

Patients' notes

From Professor Emeritus J. K. Russell
Sir, People expect to hear the truth from their doctors but one has to be careful. The whole truth can be brutally cruel. Medicine is an art as well as a science and nothing is more central to the art than judging how much to tell a patient, how to tell it and when to tell it.

One error is to say too little but the opposite error of saying too much, of telling a patient everything one knows or surmises about his condition without regard to the possible consequences, is worse.

If patients are to be given custody of their case notes or allowed to listen to a consultant dictating a letter to the family doctor (Dr Nina Eassey, June 2) there will have to be fundamental changes in medical practice. In effect there will have to be two levels of communication between doctors — first what is written in the case notes and then what is passed in confidence.

Ten years ago I operated on a young woman and removed an ovarian cyst which was reported by the pathologist to contain an unusual tumour which was known to give rise, occasionally, to secondary malignant growths five to 10 years after operation.

Rather than have the lady return to my clinic at intervals (which would have worried her) I asked her family doctor to use his discretion over contact with her, having first described to him the sort of symptoms that would warrant his sending her back to see me. In the event all has gone well and the lady and her husband have been spared 10 years' anxiety.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES K. RUSSELL,
Newlands,
Tranwell Woods,
Morpeth, Northumberland,
June 7.

Waiting time

From Mrs Eva Andrusier
Sir, Whilst I share Mr Narinder Saroop's concern (June 3) about the difficulty of trying to attract a waiter's attention, I was quite taken aback by a method I observed during a recent visit to a smart restaurant in Monchique, Portugal.

A British visitor, seeing that there was nobody to serve him, sat down impatiently at a table, calling out "waiter!", and then placed two fingers in his mouth and whistled loudly.

Imagine my pleasure, and his surprise, when a door immediately opened and a large, friendly Alsatian ran up to him.

Yours faithfully,
EVA ANDRUSIER,
11 Paints Lane,
Pinner, Middlesex,
June 3.

From Mr Philip Strong
Sir, Mr Saroop should press for the return of the teashop bell, a device which in my youth was on every table, to be "pinged" for attention.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP STRONG,
Sutton Vesey,
Warminster, Wiltshire.
From Mr William G. Miller
Sir, It may be some small solace to remember the words of David McCord's poem, "Ode to a Waiter":
By and by,
God caught his eye.
Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM G. MILLER,
Selwyns,
Seven Sisters Road,
St Lawrence, IOW.

HEALTH

Can a machine make you fit?

JAMES GRAY

It is boom-time for the home fitness industry in Britain. Exercise cycles, weights and rowing machines are selling as never before and workout programmes jostle for position at the top of the video charts. Fitness centres may have gone through a lean time after the aerobics burn-out but do-it-yourself fitness is a growing craze.

A gymnasium is now *de rigueur* in every British show home, and for those who can't afford to set aside a special room there are space-savers such as Twyford's Aqua-Cym which will turn a bathroom into a fully-fitted gymnasium and solarium for a mere £10,000 (the sunbed and massage table come down, via hydraulic lift, over the Jacuzzi). Why waste time sweating on the streets when you can do time on the treadmill — and do business simultaneously on the telephone?

The executive for whom time is money and money buys time, goes for state-of-the-art status symbols such as the Precor advanced running machine (£4,495 from Harrods) with its flashy computer displays, or the Terry Pro Tech training bike (£5,990 from Lillywhites) with its video screen providing competitors from "Sunday driver" to "Tour de France" standard, and a choice of scenery to race through. The Bally Lifesaver (£3,500 from Harrods), conjures up a rival oarsman to compete against and there is a Lifecycle, too, for £2,495.

But there is still a feeling that "real men" prefer weight training. Serious exercisers expect their equipment to act as ergometers to assess their "fitness quotient" — pulse rate, calories burned per minute and anything else that will make the process seem more scientific and less boring.

Video screens and digital read-

Almost all exercise is good for us — but does the equipment match up?

Victoria McKee assesses the products

outs are mainly a ploy to counter-act the tedium which turns people off exercise machines. Setting a television can be just as effective. "The really hi-tech gimmicks are not necessary for most people," says Judith Adams, Tunturi consultant at Harrods Olympic Way, who believes the present boom is partly occasioned by second-time buyers determined not to repeat earlier mistakes.

"A lot of things are tatty and not well-made. You need an exercise bicycle that has a fly-wheel for resistance, or it's no good — and won't give a smooth or comfortable ride. Most people go for one like the Tunturi W1 or W2 models for between £250 and £300."

The newest "recumbent exercise modules" (laid-back bikes more in the mould of easy chairs, such as Marcy's Easy Rider (£345) or R/em "S" (£775), look like a cushy option but actually make the leg muscles work harder than the sit-up-and-beg variety.

Marlon Brando may have spent £11,000 to learn what Dorothy Tutin discovered for a mere £29.99: that exercise equipment is only worth as much as the personal investment you are prepared to put into it. The 20-stone Brando reportedly splashed out that much in the vain hope that machines would accomplish what willpower could not. "I bought one of those inexpensive little exercise bicycles from a catalogue a year ago," Tutin says. "But I couldn't figure out how to as-

semble it. It's still sitting in the box, I'm afraid."

Jane Asher's more substantial Tunturi exercise cycle, bought three years ago for around £250, now does duty as a clotheshorse. But she uses weights at a twice-weekly workout session with friends.

Dr Craig Sharp, chief physiologist at the British Olympic Medical Centre and one of the leading exercise experts in the world, suggests that simply walking up and down stairs would be better exercise than that provided by some sophisticated stair-walking simulators (which are marketed for a substantial four-figure sum).

But he does not feel such machines are a confidence trick. "Sports people use exercise cycles to gain aerobic fitness for their hearts and lungs — and a lot of hockey, rugby, football and squash players buy a small treadmill to use when they're not playing." There are four reasons for exercising, Sharp explains: to increase strength, to build muscle endurance, to benefit the heart and lungs and to reduce body fat. "If strength is what you want, a multi-gym is a very good way of building it safely."

"For the heart and lungs an exercise bicycle or a rowing machine is useful. For home use I'd recommend the Tunturi rower for about £250, and the Schwinn Air-Dyne bike which has levers instead of handlebars, allowing you to work it with arms or legs, which costs £531.30," Sharp concedes

that using a skipping rope in the back garden would be every bit as effective.

Those who are too overweight or out of condition to take to the roads, pregnant women and others for whom jarring exercise is not recommended, and mothers stuck at home with young children may find machines allow them to take exercise they could not otherwise obtain, Sharp points out.

Multi-gyms are much safer for the amateur than working with free weights, as well as being more versatile, although free weights still sell better because they are cheaper (from around £7.95 for aerobic wrist weights) and remain the most popular item of exercise equipment. Moderately priced jogging machines such as the Tunturi jogger for around £315, are sloped so that they can go more slowly and still provide a good workout, while the Power Jog, with its sophisticated exercise analysis readouts, is flat but costs £3,700 (Lillywhites) and takes up a good deal more space.

"Buying a £29.95 bike from a catalogue is a waste of time," Sharp scoffs. "You need to have sturdy, substantial — comfortable — equipment in order to use it and have it be of use to you." He is equally scathing about pieces of passive exercise equipment. "There is, unfortunately, no successful machine yet developed for spot reducing. You will not lose any weight with these except by going on a diet, and then the fat may not necessarily disappear from the right places."

Sharp gets his exercise from running and playing squash. "Machines are for those who are handicapped in some way — whether it's a physical handicap or a time or space handicap. There's no substitute for running in green fields."

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Geared for fitness: hard at work on the Schwinn Air-Dyne bicycles at Cannons health club in London.

Bad news on brains

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

The brains of animals are a culinary delicacy in some parts of the world: monkey's brains in the Far East, sheep's brains in certain Jewish sects. And so convinced were traditional Hyde Park nannies that brains were good for their charges that 30 years ago there was a butcher's shop in Kensington which catered specially for their demands. Neither nanny nor the old Jewish cooks had heard of Creutzfeldt Jakob disease, scrapie (its equivalent in sheep and goats), and now bovine spongiform encephalopathy, which is almost certainly the same disease in cows.

Creutzfeldt Jakob disease is a progressive fatal disease of the central nervous system which manifests itself in late middle age, is characterized by increasing dementia, loss of speech and of muscle power and co-ordination, such as would be expected following increasing atrophy of the brain. Once the symptoms have been noted death usually occurs within a year. Although exceedingly rare, it is more common in two groups of people: those Jews who eat sheep's brains (which have presumably occasionally been infected by scrapie) and patients who have had neurosurgery. In the latter group

the virus-like agent which transmits the disease and which is resistant to cooking or even boiling for 10 minutes is presumably passed on through inadequately sterilized surgical instruments.

The problem has been complicated recently by the discovery that a similar disease is occurring in cows. Over the past year or two farmers have noticed that an amiable old cow has suddenly become aggressive at the same time that it starts to show signs of staggering and muscular weakness. Post mortem findings show changes in the brain similar to those of scrapie and Creutzfeldt Jakob disease. It seems probable that bovine spongiform encephalopathy has spread to cows as a result of including sheep's homestead in cattle feed. It can be transmitted at birth from the cow to her calf.

The public health problem the disease presents is more complex than forbidding nannies to feed babies on sheep's brains. There is no legislation to stop the practice, if it exists, of food manufacturers adding bovine brains to meat products — meat pies for instance — or, if brains have been added, of labelling the food appropriately.

Flushed out

When the personal column was carried on the front page of *The Times*, there were a few advertisers who caught the eye each week. Colonel Richardson always had Airdeals for sale, a firm of suppliers of ecclesiastical goods provided a weekly horridly in the style of Tom Forrest of *The Archers*, and there was always a two-liner offering a mysterious service known as Colonic Irrigation. The advertiser was, she always stated proudly, a qualified nurse. But many people who now advocate the regular washing out of the rectum and colon with water have neither medical nor nursing qualifications. They believe that the body is cleansed of unabsorbed toxins if water is introduced like an enema through a long tube and at the same time the abdomen is massaged. *General Practitioner* magazine advises that this practice may not be harmless, but clinically valueless, eccentricity it seems. Steve Colley, a doctor with a special interest in gastroenterology, warns that patients with diverticulitis, weakened patches of the bowel which have become infected and inflamed, or patients with inflammatory bowel disease may

have their intestines perforated by the procedure; and that as water is absorbed from the bowel elderly patients or young children may have their circulation overloaded with a consequent risk of heart failure. *General Practitioner* interviewed one colonic irrigator who said: "We treat anybody from children to OAPs. In anyone who is ill you can guarantee that their colon needs cleaning." Neither the gastro-enterologists nor the alternative medicine enthusiasts mentioned the new risk. Aids, which could be transmitted through the use of inadequately sterilized tubing.

Trouble on tap

A report in *The Lancet* supports manufacturers' claims that at least some alcohol-free beer is almost indistinguishable from the real thing. Depressed patients who have been prescribed monoamine-oxidase inhibitors are not allowed to take tyramine rich foods, including vegetable protein, cheeses, pickled herrings and alcoholic drinks. As a result of his doctor's warning, a patient in Ireland switched to a well advertised brand of alcohol-free beer, only to suffer an increase in blood pressure and a stroke. Investigations

showed that the tyramine content of the alcohol-free beer was the same as that of ordinary beer, as the advertisements say: only the alcohol is missing.

Checking back

Back sufferers are well aware that low back ache, radiating to the legs and associated with muscle spasm, is, as often as not, the result of nerve irritation in the lumbosacral area. They are aware that a disc lesion slightly higher in the back will produce pain in the loin and groin. But the suggestion that a pain over the rib cage or in the armpits comes from a prolapsed intervertebral disc in the neck or upper back produces a look of incredulity and a suspicion that the doctor is, mistakenly, being kind by keeping bad news from them. But the tribulations of Mel Appleby, of the pop duo Mel and Kim, who discovered she had a rare cancer of the spine, have demonstrated that if pain persists, other causes of chest pain, as well as causes other than a disc lesion or nerve root irritation, must be excluded. Fortunately recent advances in CAT scanning have enabled disc lesions to be demonstrated long before bone changes show on a straight X-ray.



Information Station.

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BOOKS

Casting couch telltale

Andrew Sinclair on kiss-and-yell memoirs of a famous film maker

Dead women tell no tales. Some living men do, particularly Elia Kazan. His *Life* makes Casanova's memoirs seem prudent and Rousseau's *Confessions* appear a roman à clef. To Mr Kazan intimacy is not the great gift of secret sharing, but an incitement to betrayal. His compulsive liaisons, beginning with his wives before his marriages, and with other people's wives in front of their infants, and even with that poor innocent Marilyn Monroe, are described down to the last private part. If a woman is wearing a belt, Mr Kazan will hit below it. He does not kiss and tell, he tells and tells and tells.

He concludes the interminable baring of his nakedness with the reflection that he may hurt many by his revelations, but he is too old and small to be punched on the nose. Perhaps — but as a Turkish Greek himself, as well as an aggressive American, he should know of family feuds. He has disguised his true nature and appetites all his life by his Anatolian smile.

Mr Kazan's autobiography is a defence of the betrayal of many of the women and men in his life. His reason is that he must tell the truth about himself, let the chips fall where they may. He asks our pardon for telling us that he had mumps as a boy and so was reduced to Hitler's state in the popular song. He was to live, as he puts it, for once delicately, "with only one source". Rejection by every girl he desired until Yale Drama School was unappealing torture, and gave him an ineradicable lust for each blonde beauty who fell his way on his progress to fame as one of America's most powerful stage and screen directors. He excuses his petty lecheries, ending with the unparalleled self-deception, "Promiscuity for an artist is an education, a great source of confidence, and a spur to work. Ironically it can also promote true marital fidelity."

Really, Mr Kazan? He is obviously a man who can have his shish kebab and eat it too. Most fascinating of all is his lengthy explanation of shopping his old comrades during the Red Scare of the days of Senator Joseph McCarthy. Once a member of the inner cell of the Group Theatre, he and the playwright Clifford Odets named the names of the others to the House Un-American Activ-

ELIA KAZAN
A Life
By Elia Kazan
André Deutsch, £17.95

ities Committee and so purged their contempt and avoided prison, while provoking the contempt and absolute derision of the American Left.

Previously, Mr Kazan describes his sensations on receiving his red card in the Thirties. He felt reborn as the Proletariat Thunderbolt, who would personally make the revolution. While acting in *Ode's Waiting for Lefty*, he felt an apothecosis with the cheering audience. Yet later he betrayed his old comrades, insisting that it was not to save himself from being black-listed in Hollywood as the non-sayers were. He even defended what he called "the proper duty" of his betrayal in a full-page advertisement in *The New York Times*. Flaunting it was the best defence. And a year later, by his own confession, he stopped feeling guilty or even embarrassed. That was because of directing one of the finest American films ever made, in which the informer becomes the Christian hero (the fink as El Cid).

Until this admission, Mr Kazan has denied that *On the Waterfront* was a personal statement about his own apostasy and that of his final screenwriter, Budd Schulberg. Now he tells of talking to Tony Mike, the actual stool-pigeon who testified about corrupt practices among the longshoremen to the Waterfront Crime Commission. He made Mr Kazan feel that "in the mysterious way of art, I was preparing a film about myself". And so he shot it with Marlon Brando giving an incandescent performance. The film was the reverse image of John Ford's classic, *The Informer*; it was the Gnostic heresy that Judas should be a saint because he was ordained to make the Crucifixion possible. Ironically, Ford had given Mr Kazan some of his first lessons in directing. "You know the story. Tell it with pictures. Forget the words."

That was excellent advice for Mr Kazan. If he could only have told his story with his pictures, among which were *On the Waterfront* and *Viva Zapata*, he would have left an indelible impression. And if he had told only the stories of how he directed actors and



GLYNN BOYD HARTRE

with a lower-paid member of the cast. Exit Tabulah, growing. In dealing with the legendary Hollywood studio chiefs and producers Mr Kazan met his equals, tough survivors, ruthless in the pursuit of success. But they had one thing that he lacks: they did not uncover their indiscretions. When shooting *On the Waterfront* and *The Last Tycoon* for Spiegel, Mr Kazan could not fathom his producer's absolute secrecy and total generosity. He never betrayed himself or his sources while giving to his friends. Candour to a fault is Mr Kazan's worst enemy. This is a compelling autobiography by a man who knows many and tells too much.

Chris Peachment interviews Elia Kazan on the Arts Page, page 20

Fantasy, fable, fun

FICTION

John Nicholson

THE EDEN MAN
By Paul Lyons
André Deutsch, £10.95

WHO'S AFRAID OF BEOWULF?
By Tom Holt
Macmillan, £10.95

Peach O'Hare is in his favourite position, cross-legged on the piano stool, waiting for his inner sun to penetrate "Pharaoh's Tomb" — the low-ceilinged cerebral chamber in which he conducts his daily struggle for greater self-awareness. Today the amiable Antipodean excoordinator is hoping to expand his understanding of Divine Love. Suddenly he is jolted out of his trance and invited to view instead the fruits of human love.

"What do you think?", whispers his long-time companion Morag, ecstatically contemplating a test-tube of her own urine. Peach scratches his head before admitting:

"It's not how I saw things going — having a family. Must have been when I did that yogic birth control." Then he cheers up. "I'm not afraid of work. All change. It's what meditation's all about."

But is meditation work? And can an inexperienced horticulturalist really create a new suburban Garden of Eden in Hampstead — especially if he can't afford the bus fare to NW3, let alone the deposit on a set of tools? Not that Peach is without resources — or allies. For example, fellow busker No 3 — Tooth Maguire, a worshipper of Jimmy Hendrix and hot contender for the title of Noisiest Subway Guitarist in London. Then there's ex-colourist Randy Braithwaite, aka Allwraith the Druid, a man on a quest too dangerous for parrots and life-threatening to all involved. But towering above the rest of Peach's supporters is building contractor Fergus O'Fay, whose passion for drink and digging is matched by

an uncanny but most welcome ability to turn up whenever one of his protégé's ill-planned schemes threatens to get out of hand.

The Eden Man is a staggeringly accomplished first novel. It is crammed with quirky observation, and it contains half a dozen *Hellzapoppin*-style comic set-pieces that caused me to make a public spectacle of myself. But this was a small price to pay for the funniest book I've read since *Illywhacker* by Peter Carey — like Mr Lyons, a member of the school of surrealist fantasy and fable-mongering which has so much to do with the current vogue for novels by young Australian writers. Paul Lyons may of course turn out to be a one-hit wonder. But there's a reassuring sense of control and pacing here which suggests that he is settling in for a nice long innings.

Tom Holt is another young writer of whom great things are expected. A passionate admirer of E.F. Benson, Mr Holt entered the literary lists with a breath of "posthumous" *Lucia* sagas, before

striking out on his own with the highly praised *Expecting Someone Taller*. *Who's Afraid of Beowulf?* is a comic fantasy which takes off from the discovery outside Caithness of the most important archaeological find since Tutankhamun — a perfectly preserved Viking longship containing Norse King Hroth Earthstar and his 12 companions.

The combination of peat conditions in Northern Scotland and good old-fashioned magic allows Hroth and his chums to revive and disembark into the modern world. Pausing only to substitute outside St Michael's suiting for armour, the heroes pile into a Transit with wide-eyed but game young archaeologist Hildy Fredericksen. Then they head southwards, pursued by a television crew inspired by thoughts of a BAFTA award and overtime payments, to resume battle with the Auld Enemy — not on this occasion English football supporters but the forces of the Sorcerer King, which rather mysteriously include a contingent of the SAS.

Classical scholar and collector of myths, Tom Holt seems almost more secure when writing through eighth than 20th-century eyes. Anachronism is a useful device for pointing satire, as well as being good for a laugh. His heroes are unimpressed by modern magic, and their perceptions allow Mr Holt to puncture the pretension of several contemporary legends — particularly those surrounding the telecommunications revolution. It's all a little whimsical for my taste, but cleverly executed and surprisingly moving at the finish.

Life on the touch-line

Robert Nye

COASTWISE LIGHTS



By Alan Ross
Collins Harvill, £12.50

In lodgings in Paris, one hot summer, the young Alan Ross found that if he stood on the lavatory seat he could look straight into an apartment in the next building a few feet away. Each night he did this he found himself the hidden spectator of a domestic scene in which there were three characters and no apparent plot. An old man with a white beard sat studying a racing paper at a desk, a woman stood knitting, another man lolled on a bed or sometimes peed in the sink. All of them were naked. Ross confesses that he was fascinated. He watched them for a week, attracted by their silence, interested to note that the men remained indifferent to the woman no matter what she did.

Now this little scene is plainly of some significance in Alan Ross's life since he places it right at the start of his second volume of autobiography *Coastwise Lights*. Yet while he describes it with admirable precision, he never tells us what he thought about it. What effect did the slightly surrealistic antics of the naked three have on the watcher? Any? None? We do not know. Ross links it all to a painting come to life, and this is fair enough since elsewhere in the book he writes more movingly about paintings and about the suicides of painter-friends than he writes about anything else.

But he seems to forget that for his readers the painting-come-to-life contains him, the young man with a childhood in which imperialism was not yet a dirty word,

recently discharged from the Royal Navy, passionate about poetry and cricket, now perched standing on a lavatory seat in Montparnasse. . . . There is a curious self-forgetfulness to Alan Ross, a tendency to go in for close observation of others from some vantage point that seems to render him invisible in his own eyes. This makes for some of the more attractive verses which complement the clear prose of his memoirs, poems which manage to be photographic without becoming mere snapshots. But it also makes for some very curious and striking omissions.

There are several ways of considering this rather severe reticence. I prefer to see it as a

virtue, though I could have done with just a word or two about the wife and son beyond the fact that the former had dark eyes and long dark hair. The book is memoirs, after all, not full-scale autobiography, and on the whole it's very nice to meet a chap who has an unusual range of sporting interests — horse-racing, soccer, as well as cricket — and can talk intelligently about these.

For many years, in addition to his good work as editor of the *London Magazine*, Mr Ross made a living as a sports journalist. Students of superstition might wish that he would take this up again, since he informs us that England never lost a Test series that he covered.

There have always been English writers who combine a passion for literature with a passion for spectator sports. This book contains a rather disparaging reference to perhaps the most famous one in the generation before Mr Ross's — J.C. Squire. If I say now that Ross seems to me the Squire of the age, he will not much relish the compliment. Yet complement it is, for Squire wrote at least one good poem ("Under") and an autobiographical sketch (*The Honeyuckle and the Bee*) which in its warmth, simplicity, and freshness much resembles the best thing in *Coastwise Lights*. Where Ross is most original, and unlike Squire or anyone else, is in this curious habit of seeing all life as a sort of spectator sport, himself removed from the field of play, observing, yet unobserved.

Pretty Mr Toad

Brian Alderson

MY DEAREST MOUSE

By Kenneth Grahame
Introduction by David Golderman
Pavilion, £15.95

"I love those little people, be kind to them", thus Kenneth Grahame when he first met E.H. Shepard. But what sort of kindness would that reserved and fastidious man perceive in this new printing of the 15 letters to his son Alistair out of which branched the masterpiece?

To be sure, there is nothing embarrassingly intimate in the few passages that were omitted when the letters were first published by Grahame's widow in 1944. Also there is a direct appeal in watching the story develop line-by-line. From its beginning, in *medias res*, with the theft of the car (poop-poop!) to its conclusion (heralded by "Toad's Last Little Song") an almost verbatim text is established for large parts of the "Toad" chapters of the book.

Where the publisher has failed Mr Grahame is in the presentation. For instead of printing the letters with simple, necessary explanations, he has chosen to prettify. On the right-hand pages stand the facsimiles, on blue or cream backgrounds according to the colour of the original writing-paper. On the left are disconnected annotations, miscellaneous pictures, occasional transcriptions, or merely blank pages. No coherent attempt is made to examine the literary and biographical issues raised by the letters, and several significant points about both text and pictures are passed over: muddle undercuts clarity. The final product is a book for Toad's own coffee-table.

Galactic giggle

SCIENCE FICTION

Tom Hutchinson

SOURCERY

By Terry Pratchett
Gollancz, £10.59

Let us now praise Terry Pratchett. He has been happily trugging us in his Discworld books, with that rarest of all SF coshes — laughter. Now, he puts in the intellectual boot as well, and the resultant galactic giggle may well be considered his masterpiece. Underneath the archness is a memorable account of how we adapt power before it adapts us.

Into Discworld — derived, I'd say, from Korda's *The Thief of Bagdad* — is born a wizard so strong that the other magicians in the Unseen University collapse in a spectacular conjunction unforeseen by any astrologer. Pitted against him are the insufferably dim Rincewind and a backing-group from universal yuppiedom.

Like Douglas Adams, Mr Pratchett takes his names from the Ministry of Funny Talks. But his jokes are faster, funnier and their surreality is, paradoxically, much more relevant to our present reality. Praise be, indeed! Or, as the blurb-writers might have said — but, thankfully, didn't — Make Merry With Terry. SF should slap a preservation order upon him. Humour such as his is a very endangered species.

● Best SF Stories, by Brian W. Aldiss (Gollancz, £11.95) Aldiss

is, alliteratively, awesome: his range seems to have no horizons; only humanity gives him perspective. Here is "The Saliva Tree", his Wellsian tribute/indictment, and "The Girl And The Robot With Flowers", an SF writer's touching thinking upon thought. All to be read at one train-ride.

● The Wooden Spaceships, by Bob Shaw (Gollancz, £10.95) Mr Shaw's saga-trilogy is a very different cauldron of concoctions, a vivid continuation of *The Rugged Astronauts* with the wish-fulfilling — for Mr Shaw, perhaps? — middle-aged hero taking on invaders with Dad's Army of spaceships, for love of his country and his king. Strange how monarchies now rule in futureworlds. Republics are no longer the rage in the utopias and dystopias of sci-fi.

NEW HARBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books:

Akhmatova, King of Egypt, by Cyril Aldred (Thames & Hudson, £24)
The Pharaoh with a difference updated by a leading Egyptologist.
Athens and Sparta, by Anton Powell (Routledge, £39.50) Formative political and social history of Greece (and by inheritance us) from 478 BC.
Freud in Exile, edited by Edward Timms & Naomi Segal (Yale, £25)
Freud scholars on the migration of modern psychoanalysis to London.
Memories & Hallucinations, by D.M. Thomas (Gollancz, £11.95) Jigsaw of memories, poems, ideas, reflections, dreams by the novelist/poet Rembrandt's Enterprise, by Svetlana Alpers (Thames & Hudson, £20)
The artist in relation to his studio, *modus operandi* and market-place.
Samuel Johnson, by Charles H. Hinnant (Macmillan, £27.50) Textual analysis of modern relevance of literary Hercules/Great Cham/Caiblen.
Spain, by Jan Morris (Barrie & Jenkins, £14.95) Classic reissued.
The Art of the Novel, by Milan Kundera, translated by Linda Asher (Faber, £9.95) Collected pieces on "the art born of laughter of God".
Vermeer, by Arthur K. Wheelock Jr (Thames & Hudson, £12.95).
Words for Robert Burchfield's Sixty-Fifth Birthday, edited by E.G. Stanley & T.F. Hoad (Boydell & Brewer, £29.50) Wordsmith's Festschrift.
Words in Time, by Geoffrey Hughes (Blackwell, £14.95) Social history of the world-wide English vocabulary by Witwatersrand professor.

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Conor Cruise O'Brien, *Sunday Times*
"Again and again this new biography sends us back to what Tolstoy wrote in admiration and puzzlement."
Michael Armstrong, *The Guardian*
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Terence Moore, TLS February 12 1988
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THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Spoiled children

Suffer The Children (BBC1) was a predictably bleak and repellent account of the treatment of young black detainees in South Africa. In the current emergency, an estimated 10,000 children have been subjected to various abuses, including whipping and electrocution. Usually the victim is released without charge after months of confinement.

It is a tribute to the dogged application of journalists working under fraught conditions that little of this should in fact surprise us, and apart from a few horrific still photographs of flayed backsides, the report had to fall back on persistent iteration of the legal contradictions in play. South Africa is a signatory to the UN charter *The Rights of The Child*; the law insists that detainees be brought to court within 48 hours. But the security forces are allowed to do practically anything "in good faith".

The Minister of Law and Order would like to see all children "at home with their loved ones". Those homes look very much like a form of detention in themselves.

Much of the evidence was supplied by churchmen, bearing the conscience of the nation on their surplices. In Hungary, meanwhile, the official term for all churches is "moral-value-producing institutions": a phrase which certainly puts them in their place. *Next Time - Always Next Time* (Channel 4) had Robert Kee searching in Budapest for the cement that binds the apparently easy relationship of Christ and Marx.

Queuing up to express cautious satisfaction with Hungary's "cultural pluralism", the august divines suggested only that this is an entire nation of fellow travellers. One rebel priest took a different line. "We are the descendants of a Jew who committed hara-kiri." There is no satisfying some people.

Martin Cropper

David Robinson welcomes a stylish individual thriller but finds other new films fail to transcend their literary origins

Innocence is no defence

Cop (18)
Cannons Panton Street,
Edgware Road

A Handful Of Dust (PG)
Cannons Shaftesbury
Avenue, Fulham

Bright Lights, Big City (18)
Leicester Square Theatre

Dogs In Space (18)
Renoir, Gate, Cannon
Oxford Street

Hello Again (PG)
Warner West End, Cannons
Oxford Street, Haymarket

Overboard (PG)
Plaza, Cannons Bayswater,
Edgware Road, Oxford Street

James B. Harris, an early partner of Stanley Kubrick, has emerged occasionally as a director, to make four thoughtful and personal films over a period of 26 years: *The Bedford Incident*, *Some Call It Loving*, *Fast Walking* and now *Cop*.

His new film, based on a novel *Blood On The Moon*, by James Elroy, adopts the current commonplaces of the police genre: a dedicated Los Angeles policeman sacrifices family life to the job, and turns rogue in his fanatical pursuit of the quarry through a complex jigsaw of clues.

The story line tends to go off track; and the plot pivots on a murderous vendetta from long-ago high school days that smacks of *Friday The 13th*. *Cop*, though, compensates with style and panache. The script is taut and sharp and the casting exemplary. The main role gives James Woods (who also produced the film) a role

of more range and sympathy than his usual studies in vicious neurosis; and the ever-excellent Charles Durning plays his father figure on the force.

Essentially it is for Harris a study in obsession. The cop even tells his eight-year-old daughter case histories - in salty police vernacular - as bedtime stories. To his wife's protests he replies that it is for the child's good, that innocence and illusion kills. His obsession in the end robs him of both family and job; and leads to a shocking and equivocal final scene.

A Handful Of Dust is a lot funnier and more acid on the printed page than in Charles Sturridge's screen adaptation, even though the film takes Evelyn Waugh's dialogue-dominated novel pretty straight. This may be because the adaptors (Tim Sullivan, Sturridge and the producer Derek Grainger) simply chose to emphasize the sentimental-romantic element

CINEMA

rather than the satire; or it may have something to do with a passage of time that has changed the novel from a contemporary (as of 1934) social comedy into a period piece; or it may be due to the casting of actors - James Wilby, Rupert Graves, Kristin Scott Thomas - whose style lacks a comic edge.

The producer-director team were responsible for *Brideshead Revisited*, and this film, produced for London Weekend Television, has the same qualities of diligence, handsome photography, shrewd choice of locations and casting of major personalities (Anjelica Huston, Alec Guinness, Judi Dench) in near-cameo roles.

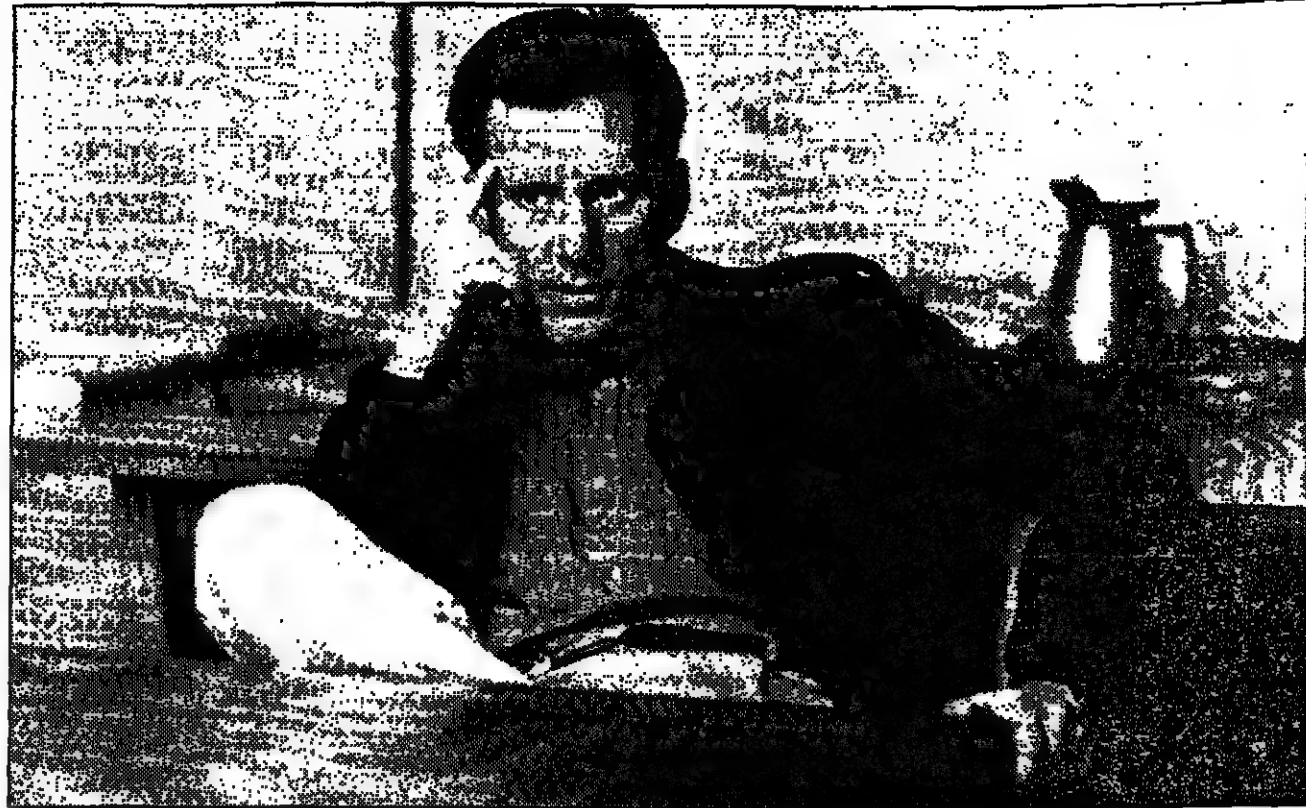
I am assured that Jay McInerney's

original novel, from which he adapted the script of *Bright Lights, Big City*, is very funny. The screen version, directed by James Bridges, is rather glum, and moralistic in an old-fashioned way.

Michael J. Fox is a young New Yorker, an aspiring writer working as publisher's researcher. The story chronicles the critical week in which he finally faces painful realities he has tried to elude: his mother has died of cancer; his wife, a brittle, light-headed model, has walked out.

Fox is a gifted actor; and makes the dialogue seem his own. Even so, he has a hard time sustaining our concern for this agonized young man; and it is a pity that attractive supporting players including John Houseman, Frances Sternhagen and Dianne Wiest were not given a bit more of the burden to share.

The punks in Richard Lowenstein's *Dogs In Space* are also mostly punch-



Policeman who sacrifices everything in fanatical pursuit of a killer: James Woods (also producer) in James B. Harris's film *Cop*

drunk on drugs. Lowenstein is still young enough for 1978 to seem a distant historic period; and the most remarkable aspect of *Dogs In Space* is its powerful sense of a past era drawing to its close.

The film is a study of a punk commune living, along with one or two left-over hippies, in squalid squalor in a squat in a Melbourne suburb.

The central figure Sam (Michael Hutchence, Australian pop star) affects a puppy-dog brainlessness that proves irresistible to women and utterly disarming to his girlfriend Anna (Saskia Post) who starts as the most responsible member of the group, but is the one who dies of an overdose.

Sam, Anna and their entourage are recognizably contemporaries of Sid and Nancy; but Lowenstein views his characters with a lot more warmth and comprehension and humour than Alex Cox. The apparent formlessness conceals a very strong control of structure, as the initial appearance of *joie de vivre* in the commune imperceptibly disintegrates into senselessness and despair.

Hello Again and *Overboard* are the kind of situation comedies with outrageously extravagant premises that old Hollywood used to do with such easy confidence and style. TV sitcom has tumbled standards and rendered the old style and expertise extinct.

Frank Perry, as director, brings a singularly leaden touch to *Hello Again*, in which Shelley Long, as an accident-prone housewife, is brought back from the grave a year after her sudden death from choking on a Korean chicken meatball, and battles to regain her former role in a family and society that has definitively accepted her absence. The physical comedy is embarrassingly inept.

Overboard is luckier: Goldie Hawn has matured appealingly as a comic actress, and is well-learned with Kurt Russell. She too has a kind of reincarnation, playing an odious rich lady who falls off her yacht and suffers severe amnesia.

Her relieved husband takes the opportunity of dumping her; and Russell, in revenge for former insults, deceives her into believing she is his wife and the mother of his hillbilly children. It offers some laboriously spun-out comedy, directed by TV-trained Garry Marshall.

CONCERT

**Asko Ensemble/
Bernas**
Amsterdam

Anger, even when deeply felt, is a hard thing to sustain. In his song cycle *Glad Day*, commissioned by the Holland Festival, British composer Steve Marland tries hard to be angry about life in Thatcher's Britain. But in the end his natural optimism over-takes despair.

The first two songs, however, breathe Marland's fury, and that of his poet, Steven Keane, as a dragon breathes fire, the integrity emphasized by the simplistic rock-influenced language. As the jazz singer (Sarah Jane Morris, excellent) sings of Cardboard City and brutal men in blue suits, it is impossible not to feel shame, while the sneering arrangement of "I vow to thee my country", as if related by a homeless mother, presses the point home.

Marland will experience no problems with this anti-intellectual manner if he can sustain the genuineness of his socio-political stance. Other composers tread more dangerous if less controversial paths.

Simon Bainbridge's *Metamorphosis*, a festival commission with the Aldeburgh Festival, has an ingenious construction enabling the composer to focus in and out of a fascinatingly flexible soundscape, using overlapping techniques, contrasts between movement and stasis, and amplified soloists, to impressive effect.

The work certainly held its own against three more pieces by British composers, in this recital. Richard Bernas directed Oliver Knussen's *Coarsening*, the Bainbridge, Robert Saxton's archlike, regenerative, *The Sentinel Of The Rainbow* and Colin Matthews's dionysiac *Suns Dance*, with a confidence reflected dazzlingly in the playing of Holland's premier new music group, Asko.

Stephen Pettitt

Chris Peachment meets straight-talking Elia Kazan, film director

What a great life!

The jury may well still be out on Elia Kazan's films. As far back as *On The Waterfront*, Lindsay Anderson in this country was taking him to task for providing a triumphant ending for Brando, when in fact the unions which he crossed would have ensured that he finished face down in the river.

Others find the parallel between Brando's informing on the mob and Kazan's own readiness to name names for the Committee on Un-American Activities embarrassing. Some critics still point to his apparent unconcern with the look of his films, although his use of Cinemascope in *East of Eden* demonstrates at least as much care as he took over James Dean.

There happens to be a strong answer to almost all the critical points made against him, but at least one thing is certain: with the possible exception of Martin Scorsese's collaboration with Robert de Niro, no American director since Kazan has lavished such emphatic care on actors nor extracted such great moments of emotional naturalism from them.

This skill was learned from the theatre, where he held sway from the late Forties to the early Sixties with an astonishingly strong list of modern classics: *All My Sons* (1947), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1947), *Death of a Salesman* (1949), *Camino Real* (1953), *Tea and Sympathy* (1953), *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1955), *Sweet Bird of Youth* (1959) and *After the Fall* (1964); the very best of Tennessee Williams and Arthur Miller, and all of them about specifically American problems.

But in his films it is the performances which are remembered: Marlon Brando in *Viva Zapata*, and again with Rod Steiger, Lee J. Cobb, and Karl Malden in *On The Waterfront*, James Dean in *East of Eden*, Carroll Baker and Eli Wallach in *Baby Doll*; these were the first time that the Method school of acting (originally set up by Kazan and Lee Strasberg in 1948) had been unleashed on the public, and all attest to an overwhelming respect for the actor's craft.

Or, rather, an ability to extract a great performance, because respect did not always enter into it. "I didn't like Dean too much," says Kazan. "I objected to that image he was projecting; that all parents are dopes. It was horse manure. I saw Jimmy and his father together and they got on fine."

"Still, he did have enormous talent, and he came out well in my picture, but technically he was incompetent. Look at the last two reels of *Giant*, he is embarrassing. You couldn't compare him with Brando, who was superbly proficient. But he did have talent."

This same desire to tell it like it was can be found throughout his autobiography, *Elia Kazan: A Life* (Andre Deutsch, £17.95), which doesn't pull its punches in setting the record straight. The shade of Lee Strasberg is probably blushing for the first time in the



Rocky peasant face that gives little away: Kazan at a still-passionate 78

light of Kazan's final summation. "I became un-devoted to him towards the end. His influence was enormous, but he approved too much. He wasn't tough enough on actors, and allowed them too much self-indulgence."

"He wanted stardom by proxy. He was good as the mafioso in *The Godfather*, it was exactly as he was in life." More seriously, he feels that while the Method took the theatre away from stodginess and made it think about ordinary people, its chief failure was that it never addressed itself to finding a new approach for the classics.

Marilyn Monroe was at least one casualty of the Strasberg over-indulgence. "When I knew her she was the sweetest kid. Honest, simple, very ambitious to be a good actress. She would make me breakfast and then cycle off to voice classes."

"She had a gift of saying whatever she felt, without a great deal of calculation, but she was never like the later media picture of her, she was just damn' nice. But Strasberg set his wife in attendance on her throughout all her pictures and it didn't help."

Sam Spiegel, who produced *On The Waterfront*, Tallulah Bankhead, Kirk Douglas, Marlon Brando, Montgomery Clift, Warren Beatty, Natalie Wood, Harold Pinter, Robert de Niro, all get a mention, and not always a favourable one. But what finally gives the book its authority is that

the man is just as tough upon himself as anyone else.

The Anatolian Smile, which still beams out of his rocky peasant face, could cover duplicity, complacency and rat-like cunning; not for nothing was he known in his early theatre days as Gadget - someone who could fix things around the place. Longish bouts of compulsive womanizing he puts down to a feared inadequacy after a childhood illness left him sexually wounded.

And it took him more than half a lifetime to come to terms with his father, whom he feared. Now, at 78 (and, as he gleefully insists to me, all passion is by no means spent) he is drawing up accounts and is not inclined to worry very much what others think of him.

"I know you. And I know you're no different from me. I'm losing my memory, and it can be humiliating when you see someone you recognize but can't remember who it was. Maybe it was a girlfriend. But what is worse is the feeling that I might have done better. I always wanted to be a better father than mine was to me."

It is hard not to like the man, not just for the honesty of his confessions, but also for the tremendous gusto with which he approached everything in his life. "I was 74 when I started this book, and I sat there and I thought: 'God damn, what a great life!' So what, finally, is the secret of it all? - Keep busy. But only at something you care about."

Revelatory Lady

OPERA

Macbeth
Covent Garden

Look to the lady. New York, Sydney and half Europe have already been doing so; only now has London the chance to watch Elizabeth Connell's Lady Macbeth. It is quite a revelation.

This sleepwalking scene is no mere recreation of the night of Duncan's murder: it is an action replay, or so it seems, of the entire opera. Connell understands exactly the intentions behind Verdi's meticulous markings.

Both body and voice seem to ache as the full weight of accumulated events drags song down into speech: consonants drown as if in the multitudinous seas themselves; and, in a chilling moment of child-like regression, a mere second of *plianissimo* breaths out the words "this little hand". This, for Connell, is the last drop of the milk of human-kindness which has been draining from her since her very first appearance.

Elijah Moshinsky's production, rehearsed in its revival by Jeremy Sutchiff, has always stilled the body to focus on the hands. Dimitrova, three years ago, fixed her eyes on them mesmerically: Connell's are equally expressive but attention is transfixed still more by the language of the voice itself.

This may have less ballast as an instrument but in its imagination

it ascends the throne vicariously, barely dares to disturb the reign of sleep and, transformed into the she-devil Verdi wanted, urges Macbeth higher and higher in the duet of resolve: "ora di morte". May there be many more tomorrows for her in this role.

Not that this Macbeth needs much urging. Renato Bruson, his authority in the role growing with each return to it, tunes his voice to every nervous current of his tense, hyper-alert body. Encouraged by Edward Downes's light, ever-sentient musical direction, his is a gripping study in the evolution of terror, nowhere more than in the range of shades and tones of fear he finds for the apparition scene.

And there is a unique sense of void in his colouring of the word "Perduto": it hangs in the vast silences and spaces of this production as heavy and ineradicable as any perfume of Arabia.

The strength of this revival lies in its fine balance between nightmare and reality, banality and humanity. All is reflected in the witches' own cracked mirror of reality (their hubbub and bubbling is translated in all its gory detail).

And among the reflections there is Gwynne Howell's Banquo, alive to the full horror of his integrity; there is Robin Leggate's ringing, heroic Malcolm; and there is Dennis O'Neill's Macduff, piercing every ensemble with a sharp gash of anguish in the chaos which ensues from killing the king.

Hilary Finch

False pretences

THEATRE

El Sid
Half Moon

This doomed enterprise attempts to put the sad story of an exiled train robber to music, and book and score should be despatched forthwith to the oubliette below Covent Garden. At least we are spared Ronaldo Biggs as hero: instead, Chris Bond, who usually has his head screwed on more firmly, invents Sidney (Gary Whelan), the robber who made it to Spain 25 years ago and has been living ever since on his share of what he calls "a good night's work".

Two racy girls have arrived to audition for Sid's clubhouse - a rumba number to set the Spanish tone - and Sharon and Sid discover they share a fondness for old movies ("Play it again, Manuel"). The music Dave Watts provides for the next song covers the ground from beguine to tango, not a journey of a million miles, accompanying lyrics (by Andrew Birks) made up of all the great Hollywood seduction lines. A neat idea, you might think? Not so. Heavy point points are flung in like sore thumbs for joining up to a hand later. Another train robber

(Carl Chase) arrives followed by Inspector Holloway (Bernard Gallagher in a fawn mac), out to get his train and his woman too, because Sid's wife (Yvonne Edgell, not bad) was the first Mrs Holloway. By the end there is not a man left alive, Sid's dying words being: "Sorry, my mistake".

Critics usually keep a line like that for their parting shot and I may have to come back to it. Before that, however, I should like to point out to aspiring writers of musicals that the point of having the music is not to give us a good tune, although that is always welcome, but to provide the characters with opportunities to express what dialogue alone can not: viz, the passionate howling of the soul.

Except for Chase's suicide song and a gritty duet for Edgell and Nicky Croydon, this musical's contribution is without significance.

Jeremy Kingston

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Jane Rackham and Penny Osborn

BBC1

- 6.00 *Ceefax* AM.
- 6.40 *The Newsweds* (b/w). 6.55 *Weather*.
- 7.00 *Breakfast Time* with Jeremy Paxman and John Stapleton. 8.55 *Regional News* and weather.
- 9.00 *News* and weather, followed by *Dallas*. (Ceefax).
- 9.30 *Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga*. The Coll. (r).
- 10.00 *News* and weather, followed by *Melrose Place*. The creatures that cross our thresholds. (Ceefax) (r).
- 10.10 *Cartoon*.
- 10.30 *Children's BBC*. Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings, starting with *Play School* (r), followed by *Packington* (r).
- 10.55 *Five to Eleven*.
- 11.00 *News* and weather, followed by *Cook with Claire*. Main course salads including avocado and smoked salmon, cheese and spinach, and chicken and cornmeal. (r)
- 11.30 *On the House*. First in a series of 10 programmes about DIY demonstrates how to fit a smoke alarm and how to repair some broken stairs; plus the challenge of rescuing and restoring a Victorian terrace house. (r)
- 12.00 *News* and weather, followed by *Wild World*. Richard Babb narrates impressions of Snowdonia, 845 square miles of National Park visited by thousands of people every year.
- 12.30 *Cartoon*. 12.55 *Regional News*.
- 1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Hayton. Weather.
- 1.30 *Neighbours*. Jim discovers why he doesn't want to attend his daughter's wedding.
- 1.50 *Film: Spirit of the People* (b/w) (1940). *Portrait of Abraham Lincoln* charting his rise to the White House from his humble beginnings as a peace-loving backwoodsman. Starring Raymond Massey. Directed by John Cromwell.
- 3.35 *Cartoons*.
- 3.50 *ChuckleVision* (r). 4.15 *The Blackbirds* (r). 4.30 *Coppers and Cops*.
- 5.00 *Newsround* with John Craven, Helen Rollason and Roger Finn.
- 5.10 *Blue Peter*. (Ceefax).
- 5.35 *Neighbours* (r).
- 6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. Weather.
- 6.35 *Reporting London*.
- 7.00 *Top of the Pops*. With Time Lords, Five Star, Voice of the Beehive, Morrissey, Maxi Priest and Wet Wet Wet.
- 7.30 *EastEnders*. (Ceefax).
- 8.00 *Tomorrow's World*. Presentation of the Prince of Wales Award for Industrial Innovation and Production. Plus a demonstration by a Harrier jump jet, and a look at the contents of the Royal cellars.
- 8.50 *1988 European Football Championship*. Desmond Lynam previews the next two weeks of football action which kicks off in Düsseldorf tomorrow with West Germany versus Italy.
- 9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* Regional news and weather.
- 9.30 *Crimestwatch UK*. Nick Ross and Sue Cook present the programme where viewers can help the police solve serious crime. Five weeks ago 81-year-old Joan Macan was brutally murdered. She was a well-known dog breeder and dog lovers may be able to help find her killer. Also an appeal for information about Inga-Marie Houser, an 18-year-old German girl, murdered in County Antrim in April (Ceefax).
- 10.10 *Question Time*. Sir Robin Day's guests are Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, Nicholas Ridley MP, Patricia Hollis, Labour leader of Norwich Council, and Suzanne Reeve of Food From Britain.
- 11.10 *Crimestwatch Update*. (Ceefax).
- 11.30 *International Tennis*. Highlights of today's play in the Stella Artois Championships.
- 12.10 *Weather*. Ends 12.15pm.

BBC2

- 6.55 *Open University*. The Real World. Ends at 7.25.
- 8.50 *Ceefax*.
- 9.00 *Science on Two: A level Biology*. 9.50 *Cartoon*. 10.30 *Using microcomputers for design purposes*. 11.00 *Holiday* about 11.15 *Life at sea in the 16th century*. 11.30 *Cartoon*. 12.00 *Timmy and Vicki* (two part play). 12.25 *Seventeen*. 12.50 *Home economics*.
- 1.30 *King Rollo* (r).
- 1.50 *What's the trouble?* Presented by Floella Benjamin. With Saeed Jaffrey telling the story of the Special Event (r).
- 1.58 *Music Time*. Children play Japanese gamelan music using gong-chimes, metallophones and drums.
- 2.00 *News* and weather, followed by *Watch*. Louise Hall-Taylor visits a school where the children keep bees to see how they extract honey from the honeycomb (r).
- 2.15 *International Tennis*. Coverage of the Stella Artois Championships from Queen's Club in London. Current Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, with former champions Jimmy Connors and Boris Becker, are among the competitors. Commentators are Don Maskell, John Barrett, Gerald Williams and Mark Cox. Includes 3.00 *News* and weather, and regional news and weather.
- 3.30 *Gardeners' World*. Items on planting out tender plants, protecting climbing vegetables in pots from slugs, and some selections from Chelsea. (r).
- 4.00 *Wildlife on Two*. David Attenborough reports on the problems caused by whales getting caught up in fishing nets off the Atlantic coast of Canada. (Ceefax) (r).
- 4.30 *Beating Records*. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attend a musical pageant provided by the Massed Bands of the Royal Marines at Horse Guards Parade in London.
- 7.30 *Call My Bluff*. Fooling around with words are, on Frank Muir's team, Joanna Lumley, and Alan Titchmarsh, and on Arthur Marshall's side, Seymour and John Dunn. Robert Robinson is the referee.
- 8.50 *Operation Raleigh*. In the second of six films about young people who have been sent on expeditions all over the world, John McDiade and his group travel to a remote village in southern Chile to help move the village school away from the danger of a flooding river. (Ceefax).
- 9.30 *Nature*. Michael Burk and his team investigate the emotive topic of hunting. Britain's most controversial pastime. Some say the legal killing of foxes, mink and deer is a sport, but their opponents are prepared to break the law to stop them.
- 9.50 *Rory Bremner*. Last in the series by the impressionist.
- 10.30 *Newsnight* with Peter Snow and Donald MacKinnon. 11.15 *Weather*.
- 11.30 *On Earth as It Is in Heaven*. The celebration of the Liturgy from the Church of the Resurrection in Moscow, a service considered by the Russian Orthodox Church to be a forerunner of heaven on earth.
- 11.50 *Weekend Outlook*.
- 12.55 *Open University*. Maths (designing a booking system). Ends 12.55am.



Current champion Pat Cash warms up for Wimbledon (BBC2, 2.15pm)

second of six films about young people who have been sent on expeditions all over the world, John McDiade and his group travel to a remote village in southern Chile to help move the village school away from the danger of a flooding river. (Ceefax).

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11.50 Weekend Outlook.

12.55 Open University. Maths (designing a booking system). Ends 12.55am.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 *TV-am* beginning with *The Morning Programme* presented by Morning Keys. 7.00 *Good Morning Britain*. After Nine includes Claire Rayner and Teresa Gorman MP discussing the pros and cons of hormone replacement therapy.
- 9.25 *Thames News*.
- 9.30 *Cross With*. Word game hosted by Tom O'Connor. With guests Leslie Crowther and Susie Blake. 10.00 *Santa Barbara*. 10.25 *News Headlines*.
- 10.30 *The Time ... The Place*. Mike Scott chairs a studio discussion on the subject of *Time*. With guests Tim Yeo MP and Frank Dobson MP.
- 11.10 *Puddle Lane*. (r).
- 11.25 *Thames News Headlines*.
- 11.30 *Cruelly features Beverly Bates*, disabled by illness since birth, the twins inherited and rejected by others.
- 12.00 *The Violin*. Story of a young boy's friendship with a weeping violin.
- 12.30 *The Sullivan*. Serial about an Australian family in the Forties.
- 1.00 *ITN News* at One with Julia Somerville. 1.20 *Thames News*.
- 1.30 *Falcon Crest*. Serial about a Californian wine-growing dynasty.
- 2.25 *Home Country*. Features Weddings and burials.
- 2.30 *All Our Yesterdays*. Bernard Braden with archive footage of 25 years ago when the Profumo scandal shocked a nation.
- 3.00 *Take the High Road*.
- 3.25 *Thames News Headlines*.
- 3.30 *Sons and Daughters*.
- 4.00 *Thames News*. Australian family drama serial.
- 4.10 *The Telegraph* (r). 4.20 *Emu's World*. With guest Mark Wyner. 4.45 *Panic Station* (r). 5.15 *Home Country*. Family quiz game hosted by Geoffrey Wheeler.
- 5.45 *News*. 6.00 *Thames News*.
- 6.25 *Help*. Reports on the problems Irish emigrants face to find somewhere to live in London.
- 6.30 *Emancipate Farm*.
- 7.00 *Love Me Love Me Not*. Debbie Greenwood and Nino Fieschi present the romantic quiz.
- 7.30 *Aut Widescreen*. Part. Concluding Tuesday's story (r).
- 8.00 *Lingo*. Martin Daniels introduces the quick-fire word game for couples.
- 8.30 *This Week*. Almost half the electorate of the United States will not vote in November. Jonathan Dimbleby reports on the Americans who stay at home while the world's most powerful democracy selects the next President of the US.
- 8.50 *L.A. Law*. Grace may have put her match in a wily defence attorney.
- 10.00 *News* at Ten with Carol Barnes and Alastair Stewart.
- 10.30 *Thames News*.
- 10.35 *The City Programme* reports on the business take-up; and Rupert Murdoch's satellite plans that are about to go into orbit.
- 11.00 *01- for London*. Reviews of two films, *Dogs in Space* and *Bright Lights Big City*, the first night of *Driving Miss Daisy*; plus Susan Holland talking about *Squash*. (Ceefax) (r).
- 11.30 *Prisoner*. Call Block H.
- 12.30 *News*. 12.55 *Thames News*.
- 1.30 *Channel 4*.
- 1.35 *Documentary* series about the challenges and opportunities facing single people in the capital.
- 2.00 *ITN News* Headlines followed by *Thames News*. *Family Baker* (b/w) (1982). Stanley Baker stars as a German-born Englishman who becomes involved in a convoluted spy plot when he joins the Special Air Search of his father. Directed by Quentin Lawrence.
- 4.00 *ITN News Headlines* followed by *Top Cops* for Comfort.
- 4.30 *Channel 4*.
- 5.00 *ITN News*.

CHANNEL 4

- 8.30 *Schools*. Gather Round 8.47 *A Place to Live*. 10.04 *Our World - My World*. 10.33 *Living and Growing*. 10.47 *World Studies - Modern China*. 11.03 *Time for a Story*. 11.15 *Good Health*. 11.30 *Stop Look Listen*. 11.44 *Believe it or Not*.
- 12.00 *Just 4 Fun* starting with *Adventures*. Animated way to learn the letters of the alphabet, followed by *Stanley Bagshaw* who rescues a whale from the canal, followed by *Frog and Toad* and *Friends*. American short stories about friendship.
- 12.30 *Business Daily*. Financial and business news service presented by Susanah Sivak.
- 1.00 *How to Survive the 3 to 5*. Examination of stress as experienced by a range of workers from high-powered executives to production line workers (Ceefax) (r).
- 1.30 *Interviewing*. In the second programme in the Open College series about interviewing techniques, Sarah Kennedy discusses the importance of probing (Ceefax) (r).
- 2.00 *The Permanent Programme*. Presented by Alastair Stewart. With reports from Nicholas Woolley and James Matfield.
- 2.30 *Film: The Glass Menagerie* (1955). Valerie Hobson and Miss Friend star as the husband and wife in this study of how children are affected by a marriage breakdown. Directed by Daniel Birt.
- 4.05 *Film: The Glass Menagerie* (1951). A British film featuring the staff of a Midlands factory on their firm's outing to London, including a cruise down the Thames, and a night out on the town.
- 4.30 *Countdown*. The first quarter-final in the words and numbers game is between 10-year-old Alan Saldarini and the number 8. 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Murdoch moves into UK television

Continued from page 1

under way to buy services from ITN.

The Sky Movie channel, which differs from its potential rivals in that it will be free, will be supported by advertising, in common with the other planned stations.

Advertising rates on the four channels will be "considerably cheaper" than those offered by ITV companies. Sponsorship of programmes will also be encouraged.

Viewers will be able to receive the new services on their existing television sets.

The new channels will be regulated by the Cable Authority and will voluntarily comply with the codes on sexual activity and violence being drawn up by the Broadcasting Standards Council, chaired by Sir William Rees-Mogg.

Sky Television will be operated from a new centre in London, which will have an initial investment of £10 million. Three sites are being considered to house news studios, transmission suites, post-production facilities and offices.

Mr Murdoch said the satellite venture amounted to a "major job-creation exercise" in Britain — a point echoed by Mr Alan Sugar, chairman of Amstrad.

"It is our intention to manufacture these dishes and assemble the units in the UK. It would be very nice if we could manufacture them in an area of high unemployment," Mr Sugar said. "It is our intention to put our manufacturing process in that direction."

"At the moment, satellite television dishes on the UK market are selling for more than £1,000 and consumers are being asked to pay up to £200 for aerial erection."

"Those days are fast coming to an end. Our 60 centimetre dish — no bigger than an opened umbrella — does not need planning consent and will be erected by television aerial contractors for £40 or so."

The Astra satellite will have 16 channels in total, with about 10 broadcasting in English. Its "footprint" will cover much of Western Europe.

Mr Marcus Bicknell, commercial director of Luxembourg-based SES, which is launching Astra, said yesterday there was "a 75 per cent chance" that all 16 channels would be leased by the November launch date.

He predicted that the participation of Mr Murdoch in Astra and the availability of cheap receiving equipment would seriously undermine the chances of British Satellite Broadcasting, a £625 million venture due to begin next year.

"It cannot exist from today; I cannot see any investor staying in," Mr Bicknell said.

But last night, BSB sources said Mr Murdoch and Astra had made a "big mistake" by deciding to transmit in "PAL", a broadcasting system that would be incompatible with new generations of television sets.

BSB is committed to transmitting in "D-Mac", which its supporters say offers



Mr Rupert Murdoch (left) and Mr Alan Sugar at their press conference in London yesterday (Photograph: Graham Wood).

the prospect of far better picture standards and allows operators greater technological possibilities.

Mr Murdoch is scornful of D-Mac's supposed advantages. "This piece of so-called wizardry has not been proved to be any better. It is not even proved it is capable of manufacture."

"I would say the whole thing is somewhat of a conspiracy among big manufacturers in Europe to make everybody go out and buy another television set."

Although Astra and Mr Murdoch will have an eight-month head start over their British rivals, BSB hopes television viewers investing in satellite-receiving equipment will "decide to wait and get it right, rather than getting it quick."

Thatcher welcomes channels

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister welcomed the advent of more television channels yesterday and said expression, ideas and opportunities were better guaranteed by variety than by charter and state.

She dismissed suggestions that a greater number of television channels would inevitably lead to a lowering of standards.

"Some people say it will drive television down-market. I have always believed there is a market for the best," she told the annual Press Association luncheon in London.

"I think the opportunity of more channels or subscriber channels can enable us to have some very up-market television."

Mrs Margaret Thatcher warned television companies, however, that the Government would protect children from pornography and violence if broadcasters failed to exercise self-discipline.

She urged the companies to keep violence and pornography off television screens and left them in no doubt that the Government will maintain pressure on the media to improve their standards.

She said the television and newspaper industries could do much more to maintain and improve standards than any outside regulatory body, and hoped they would not put into other people's living rooms the type of material they would not like to view in their own.

Mrs Thatcher asked for self-discipline and self-regulation, but added: "If you don't succeed then, as a matter of public policy — a phrase I rarely use because I am constrained in what a Government does — we would simply have to protect our young people."

She praised the media for the advances they had made technologically, saying everyone owed a great deal to people such as Mr Eddie Shah, the former owner of *Today*, and to those who had decided to work at the News International plant at Wapping.

"They had done so 'against the most appalling intimidation on the picket lines, decided to stay there and see it through to success', she said."

Missiles to go out in public display

In a wide-ranging speech to the UN General Assembly yesterday, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, invited representatives of a large group of countries to witness the destruction "in just a few days" of the first clusters of intermediate and shorter-range nuclear missiles provided for in the agreement with the United States.

He called it the first public execution of weapons in history, heralding an end to a lot of tears, misfortune and grief, and made possible by the Moscow summit.

He said that the UN Secretary-General, delegates from the Security Council, the Non-Aligned Movement and the 40-nation conference on disarmament were being invited to see a momentous historic event.

In his remarks, at the special UN session on disarmament, he said the Gorbachev doctrine of *glasnost* was indivisible and transcended national boundaries. As an illustration, he revealed what he said were the Soviet Union's numbers of strategic offensive arms: 2,494 delivery vehicles and about 10,000 warheads, including those on sea-launched cruise missiles.

The world must know that in addition to vast arsenals of weapons, the Soviet Union had an even greater reserve of political will for disarmament, he said.

The applause was perhaps the most enthusiastic of the week-old session and scores of ambassadors, including the American representative, General Vernon Walters, queued up to shake his hand and congratulate him. General Walters told reporters there were many new aspects in the speech and it deserved a lot of study by the United States.

Mr Shevardnadze proposed a step-by-step elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 with the abandonment of the myth of nuclear weapons as the guarantor of peace and talks, as a matter of priority, on conventional armed forces and armaments, above all those in Europe.

He said limits should be placed on the development of even more destructive types and systems of conventional weapons and on the sale and supply of conventional armaments. Consideration should be given to the creation of a United Nations naval force.

Mr Shevardnadze also said that the Soviet Union was ready to announce which of its ships calling at foreign ports were nuclear-equipped, if the United States did likewise. He said that UN military experts should begin talks on the development of technical means to verify which vessels were nuclear-free.

Yet another proposal was the establishment of a world space organization for international exploration, as well as an international space monitoring agency.

Commons sketch

Jokes that are no laughing matter

There are quite a few jokes cracked in the Chamber of the House of Commons, and quite a bit of laughter, but the jokes are rarely connected. Jokes are followed by silence and serious statements of intent by laughter. In the theatrical terms, it is as if Hamlet's every soliloquy were to be greeted with gales of merriment, whilst the comical antics of Mr Frankie Howard were to cause rivers of tears.

In this belligerently-piggish arena of muddled humanity, a Labour speech detailing horrendous atrocities in Chile will provoke much mirth on the Conservative benches. The Labour benches march this mirth, chortle for chortle, at the sight of Mr John Moore stuttering his way to early retirement. On the other hand, when such an obviously absurd character as Mr Roy Hattersley rolls his tongue around one of his immensely humorous Yorkshire adages, the House looks utterly funeral.

Sir Geoffrey Howe did not reach the position of Foreign Secretary by cracking jokes. Far from it. He wouldn't last more than a couple of seconds on the Glasgow Empire, unless, of course, he pretended to be someone impersonating Sir Geoffrey Howe. Yet in the House of Commons, he has them rolling in the aisles. After Ms Clare Short had accused him of duplicity over the Palestine Question, he replied: "We do not have double standards in that respect", and even Members on his own benches began clucking their bellies and guffawing fit to bust. "Nor in any other respect" he added, but it was too late: HO! HO! HO! HO! HO! Gentleman Geoffrey couldn't be heard for the laughter.

A while later, Mr Jeremy Corbyn, who looks rather like a hippy undertaker after a hard day's work, rose, grim and unsmiling, to list imprisonments and disappearances in Turkey, his voice solemn and monotonous. The club of rowdy young Tories just couldn't stop laughing, whispering fresh jokes to one another, their red, well-oiled faces flickering in the afternoon light.

These underpublicised young Tory rowdies might be well advised to seek help from a Television Charm School before the coming of the cameras, for their particular brand of raucousness is unlikely to gain them the adulation of the general viewer. Mr David Mellor had been sitting on the front bench waiting to answer a question for a full half-hour, so he obviously felt that his eventual appearance should be heralded by a small joke. "They also serve who only stand and wait" he tittered. Alas, a small joke from Mr Mellor has the effect of a full Requiem Mass from anyone else, banishing all grins for evermore.

But this complex and intriguing survey of humour on the benches would be incomplete without a reference to two Members who are funny both in intent and in effect. The first is Mr Dennis Skinner, whose rasping, cackling jokes, though perhaps better suited to a smoky Soho basement than to the venerable Chamber, always manage to raise a smile from all but his immediate victims. More and more, he relies upon Mr Speaker as his fall-guy ("just a moment, just a moment, don't get excited" is the well-loved Skinner catchphrase) before turning his razor tongue towards the day's most complacent Minister. It is generally supposed that Mr Skinner will have to clean up his act before the cameras are admitted, but this is a nonsense: he stands to become a major TV folk-hero, a sort of comical Robin Hood.

The other natural comedian is Mr Tony Banks, whose merry quip can lighten the most tedious of afternoons. Sadly, when Mr Banks puts his jokes behind him, the effect is ruinous, for his serious opinions tend to be shrouded in kilijoy gloom. Thus, he cracked a good joke at the beginning of his speech: "May I remind the House of the miracle of the Wedding Feast, when Christ turned water into wine. Now, he could have turned it into Neds's cocoa, but he chose to turn it into wine." But, as he rambled on, it became clear that he was proposing a bill to attach Government Health Warnings to alcohol. Dear, oh, dear. It was a sad day for British Comedy.

Craig Brown

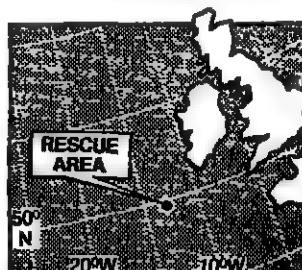
Sea rescue's extra find

Continued from page 1

in his first long-distance race, had abandoned his yacht *Doortje* after it too, had been damaged by striking something in the water.

The Dutchman was picked up by another Spanish trawler after more than seven hours in his dinghy and later flown by a Sea King helicopter from RAF Brize Norton in Wales to Cork, Southern Ireland.

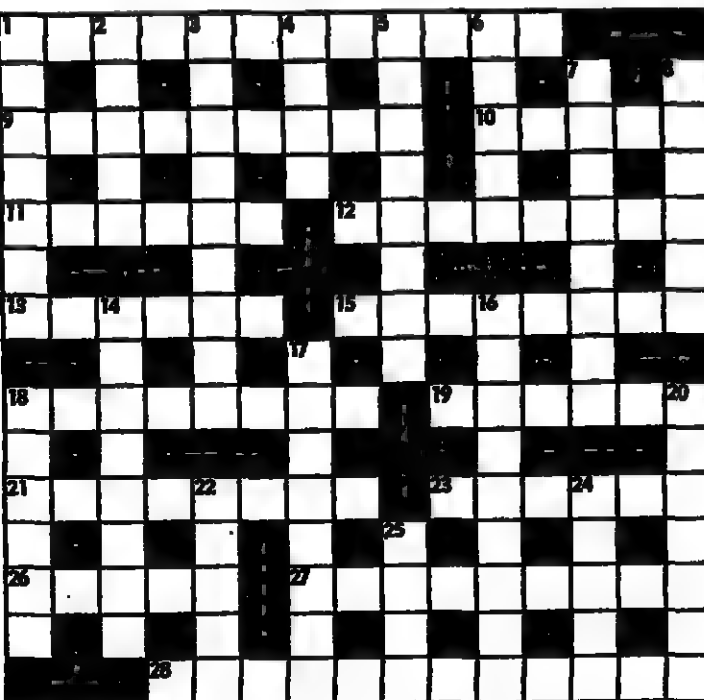
Winds in the area were blowing at an unexceptional Force 6 and the two rescues were the first mounted since 95 competitors set sail from



Plymouth on Sunday in the race, which has been run for 28 years.

Falmouth Coastguard, which co-ordinated the rescue, said last night: "It was an exemplary operation."

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,691



- ACROSS**
- Nearest point at sea for the launch (12).
 - Scheme for chum to embrace another from Bow (9).
 - Something pronounced in shorter English dictionary (5).
 - Working order of Scottish outfit, say? (6).
 - Spear tempered, it takes a year for this sharpness (8).
 - Bareness of recent simple song heard (6).
 - Summary court-martial where tattoo takes place (8).
 - Blue, perhaps, at university who never gets a first (6-2).
 - Lupin-raiser, this Holloway journalist (6).
 - Pop ethics adapted for musical melody (8).
 - Clan leader is in tartan still (6).
 - Incentives for footballers (5).
 - Girl has an awful trip to this place in the Himalayas (7-2).
- DOWN**
- Well, in Italy, loud tragicomic can be an angel (12).
 - Persistently ask the family for fruit (7).
 - Top forty, as the Romans said (5).
 - Where the ground-vent is most severe? (9).
 - Duck leaves lake (4).
 - Exchange rate certain to bring riches (8).
 - Daisy is a neat looker (2-3).
 - Embodiment of mine spread inside surgical dressing (8).
 - Remained sober, you say? (6).
 - This reptile is around no longer (8).
 - Hooch soon? (9).
 - Way to serve potatoes, just stuffed with game (8).
 - Pop in what's left for a meal (6).
 - MPs who intervene in Service quarrels (7).
 - Controversy in broadcast topic (5).
 - Sold veiled in church (5).
 - Fun for students with a note-system in India (4).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

BROMATOLOGY

- Weather forecasting.
- The study of soil and soil.
- Food sciences.

TOROSE

- Muscular.
- Sumptuously cheerful.
- A present of flowers.

MOQOC

- A military physician.
- A bogan pilot.
- A stimulating weed.

RUSOCK

- The dandelion and rye-grass.
- A fat woman.
- An embroiled kneller.

Answers on page 24

Solution to Puzzle No 17,690

LOCUS	FLORENCE	SHOW
ADIRABLE	MORSE	
STOCKY	PREVIOUS	
OSCARE	WILDE	LINE
ASCAS	ADSAIT	
REELS	UNDERNEATH	
RONLIE	AFEDON	
SWING	ROUGH	HEWN
ENACTMENT	RETAIL	

WEATHER

Much of England and Wales, except for the far west, will be cloudy and wet. Scotland, especially in the north, Northern Ireland and Cumbria will be dry and sunny. The east coast of Scotland will be a little cooler with patchy cloud. Outlook: dry weather in north will move south.

ABROAD

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Alexandria	21/20	S	10/70
Algiers	23/21	S	10/70
Amman	25/22	S	10/70
Baghdad	28/25	S	10/70
Bombay	28/25	S	10/70
Buenos Aires	20/18	S	10/70
Cairo	28/25	S	10/70
Calcutta	28/25	S	10/70
Colon	28/25	S	10/70
Hong Kong	28/25	S	10/70
London	18/15	S	10/70
Madras	28/25	S	10/70
Manila	28/25	S	10/70
Mexico City	28/25	S	10/70
Mumbai	28/25	S	10/70
New Delhi	28/25	S	10/70
Paris	18/15	S	10/70
Rangoon	28/25	S	10/70
Seoul	28/25	S	10/70
Singapore	28/25	S	10/70
Taipei	28/25	S	10/70
Tokyo	28/25	S	10/70
Yokohama	28/25	S	10/70

AROUND BRITAIN

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Belfast	18/15	S	10/70
Birmingham	18/15	S	10/70
Bristol	18/15	S	10/70
Cardiff	18/15	S	10/70
Edinburgh	18/15	S	10/70
Glasgow	18/15	S	10/70
London	18/15	S	10/70
Manchester	18/15	S	10/70
Newcastle	18/15	S	10/70
Nottingham	18/15	S	10/70
Sheffield	18/15	S	10/70
Sunderland	18/15	S	10/70
Wolverhampton	18/15	S	10/70

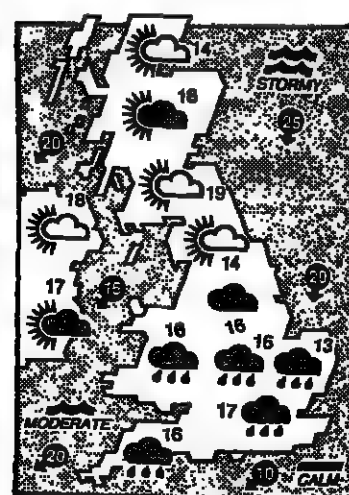
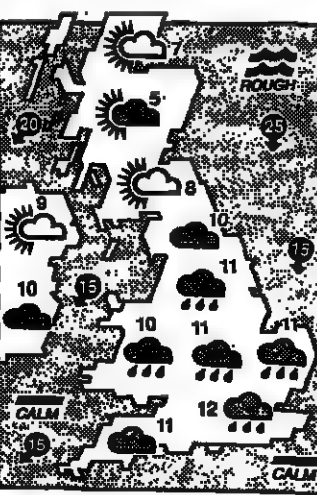
THE POUND

Country	Bank	Rate
Australia	Bank	2.35
Canada	Bank	2.35
France	Bank	2.35
Germany	Bank	2.35
Italy	Bank	2.35
Japan	Bank	2.35
Netherlands	Bank	2.35
Portugal	Bank	2.35
Spain	Bank	2.35
Sweden	Bank	2.35
Switzerland	Bank	2.35
USA	Bank	2.35

POLLEN COUNT

The pollen count for London and the South-east issued by the Asthma Research Council at 10 am yesterday was 20 (low). Forecast for today, similar. For today's recording call British Telecom's Weatherline 01-246 8091, which is updated each day at 10.30 am.

AM PM



LONDON

Today: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 18C (64F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Humidity: 6 pm, 57 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 10/17.5 mm. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1017.5 mb. Wind: 24 hr to 6 pm, 10/17.5 mph.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

Sun rises: 4.44 am. Sun sets: 9.16 pm. Moon rises: 1.58 am. Moon sets: 3.45 pm. New Moon June 14.

MANCHESTER

Today: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 19C (66F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Humidity: 6 pm, 57 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 10/17.5 mm. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1017.5 mb. Wind: 24 hr to 6 pm, 10/17.5 mph.

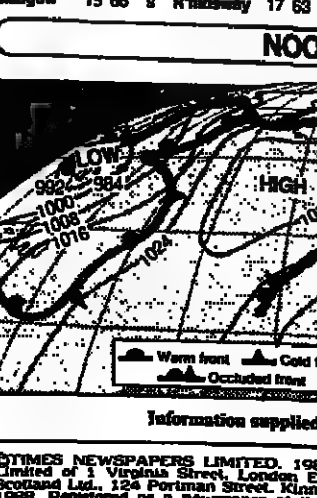
YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, rain; r, rain; s, sun.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Today: Highest day temp: Prestatyn, Cumbria, 21C (70F). Lowest day temp: Cape Wrath, Highland, 11C (52F). Highest rainfall: Cumbria, 14.5 mm. Lowest rainfall: Cumbria, 0.1 mm. Highest sunshine: Larkhill, Shropshire, 14.5 hr.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Caffyns profit doubles despite closure loss

Caffyns, the south of England car dealer doubled profits to £1.51 million in the year to end-March, from £708,000 last time — and the figures included a £190,000 loss on closing the heavy commercial vehicle business. Pretax growth was virtually static at £1.93 million, against £1.91 million. Lower property profits, however, offset the benefit of the figures for Caffyns, which operates 50 outlets, ranging from big distributor forecourts to filling stations. Site disposals produced a surplus of £418,000, against the £1.2 million a year ago when the Eastbourne property was sold.

Eastbourne is still influencing the figures. Caffyns over-extended for tax last year, so the group has a £164,000 credit this time against a £406,000 charge before. Earnings per share rose from 43.6p to 61.7p and the board is paying a 5.8p final dividend, making 10p for the year.

North British Steel losses Advertising acquisition

North British Steel Group, the engineering company, reported losses of £275,000 before tax in the six months to April 16, compared with a profit of £355,000 in the first half of last year. No interim dividend was declared. The group made a loss of £537,000 in the year to October 3. A cost-cutting programme is under way.

Lowe Howard-Spink & Bell, the advertising agency, is to acquire Hamilton Wright Marketing, a direct marketing company. The initial payment of £1 million may be followed by further amounts, totalling £3.96 million, between 1990 and 1993, depending on profits. Post-tax profits of £135,000 have been guaranteed for 1988.

Hardanger payout up

A 60 per cent increase in the dividend and an optimistic statement about the remainder of the current year accompanied half-time results from Hardanger Properties, the retail development specialists. Pretax profits in the six months to March 31 rose from £1.8 million to £2.3 million on sales up less dramatically from £7.4 million to £7.8 million. The interim dividend was increased from 4.7p to 7.5p while earnings per share rose from 15.27p to 20.31p.

Mr Derek Coombes, the chairman, expects a "significant increase" in the group's net asset value by the year-end.

Brent Walker raises more Five Dragons for firms

Brent Walker, the property and leisure group, has found so much demand for its debt, that it is doubling its commercial paper programme, to £100 million. Two new dealers, County Natwest and Svenska International, have joined Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and Citicorp Investment Bank.

Sir Greville Spratt, the Lord Mayor of London, presented the 1988 Dragon Awards for involvement in community life and employment to Whitehead, Mercury Asset Management, the Halifax Building Society, Barclays Bank and Forbes Campbell. The scheme is run by the Corporation of London and Business in the Community.

Indonesia energy link

A five-day visit to Indonesia by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Energy, has underlined British hopes of expanding commercial links with the country. Mr Parkinson is leading a team from more than 40 British oil and energy-related companies, hoping to interest oil-rich Indonesia in investing in British technology. One project being discussed was a US\$100 million (£55.23 million) proposal to build an oil refinery in East Java, using British technology. Mr Parkinson has spent much of the visit persuading Indonesian ministers and officials to take up more of a £140 million soft loan that expires in September. So far, only two projects — worth £20 million — have got off the ground, with seven others pending.

Borland stops dividends Clydesdale bank protest

Borland International, the USM-listed Californian software group, says it is scrapping dividend payments in order to plough profits back into the business. Pretax profits leapt 52 per cent in the year to end-March, from \$4.71 million (£2.59 million) to \$7.17 million (£4.01 million). Earnings a share were 10.2 cents (6.6 cents).

Clydesdale Bank employees have voted not to refill cash-in-the-wall machines in an overtime protest over pay talks. Biff, the banking union, said. The action is due to start on June 20 but union negotiators are seeking talks with the bank before then over a 9 per cent claim. The bank has offered a 6 per cent rise.

Reed sails with a sense of direction

Mr Peter Davis, Reed International's chief executive, says: "I believe very strongly that you should only do certain things, and do them well." It is not a new idea.

Reed is not the first conglomerate that has tried to sharpen its image and ditch its ungainly stock market rating by weighing anchor and heading for fresh waters.

What Reed has going for it is a clear idea of where it is heading. It has also just ended another busy year, during which its British and US publishing activities both notched up healthy gains in profits. Mr Davis has a good sense of direction.

After abandoning its paint interests, Reed found in Octopus a growing book publisher to put alongside its other magazine and newspaper publishing activities. With the sale of the paper and packaging businesses that made Reed's name, the cuckoo finally has taken over the nest.

Reed's immediate headache is convincing investors that it has the wherewithal to repel corporate predators drawn by a lean publishing group with cash in the bank. It must also assure them it will not let the cash lie in the bank so long that it weighs on the books.

Analysts see some dilution of earnings per share as inevitable. Reed thinks it is possible, but feels the reward is a portfolio of businesses that will have greater growth

potential, less cyclicality and much stronger cash flow.

Financially, it might have been better to spread the sale of the paper and packaging businesses over two years. But Mr Davis is a man who likes to get on with it. He thinks the price is attractive enough to suffer a few hiccups in the short term, including the loss of profits brought in by those businesses.

Results for the year to March 31, showing a 29 per cent rise in pretax profits to £243 million, were strengthened by a string of acquisitions, ranging from Octopus to Variety, the US showbiz bible.

Although the numbers were more or less in line with City expectations, they were seen as slightly disappointing in that they included an £11.7 million exceptional item.

The shares fell 7p to 407p as a result, but many analysts, willing to give Reed and Mr Davis the benefit of the doubt, feel they still show good medium-term value. In the short term, earnings per share, which rose 23 per cent last year to 32.8p, could be static until Reed achieves the transition.

After it does the company will be moving full-time in the modish circles reserved for publishers, with both the rating and the financial muscle it needs to compete in what has become one of the most expensive, competitive and lucrative games in town.



Coloroll

Coloroll was rolling out more than just carpets yesterday. The group has again more than matched its minimum financial targets on a host of financial criteria.

It turned in pretax profits for the year to March 31 of £26.1 million compared with £10.3 million last time. And it is already off to a flying start to the current financial year.

This week's finalization of its takeover battle for John Crowther Group effectively doubles the size of Coloroll. The management's ideas of what assets to keep and what assets to make run harder have largely been crystallized, and it should not be long before the benefits of the takeover are evident in even better returns.

Last year, net earnings

growth was 26 per cent against a 20 per cent target. Return on capital was 35 per cent against the earmarked 25 per cent, with dividend growth at 15 per cent against a 10 per cent target.

The pretax profit leap owes something to the earlier round of acquisitions, but organic growth also saw divisional margins improve.

Wallcoverings business in the US was a weak area with the integration of Wallace taking longer than expected and because of a poor third quarter, but these problems now appear to have been resolved.

It is, however, the carpet side of the enlarged Coloroll group now taking in the established Kosset and Crossley names about which the group is particularly excited. There is a glint of rising returns on higher sales already

Links with Japan 'at their best'

By Colin Narborough

The Government, keen to promote a "dynamic and business-like" partnership with Japan, yesterday urged private enterprise in both countries to take a lead in the growing industrial co-operation between the two countries.

Mr Alan Clark, the Trade Minister, told an Anglo-Japanese forum on high technology, at Leeds Castle, Kent, that the opportunities for bilateral co-operation had "never been better," especially in pure and applied research and development.

He said high technology had been identified as the single issue which more than any other would determine the future industrial health of advanced economies such as those of Japan and Britain.

Japanese government agencies had in the past year taken fundamental steps to "internationalize" Japan's science and technology base, Mr Clark said, noting that the importance of Japan as a net contributor in this field in Britain too was increasingly recognized.

But while wanting private enterprise to take the lead, he underlined that the traffic had to be two-way.

Tranwood starts City data service

By Allison Eadie

Investment managers, stockbrokers and financial journalists will soon be able to obtain detailed statistical information, financial ratios and press cuttings on all British quoted companies at the touch of a computer button.

Tranwood, the financial services group which is demerging from its Bear Brand hosiery interests, is launching the Analysis Corporation to provide in computerized form the information contained on company Extel cards.

The information will either be viewed on screen or laser printed, cutting out the labour intensive and inefficient system of card filing.

Mr Peter Earl, chairman of the Analysis Corporation and managing director of Tranwood, had ambitions to computerize Extel cards in 1986 when he launched his demerger bid for Extel through the Demerger Corporation. The bid failed, but the idea progressed to the point where the service is about to be tested by 12 City institutions.

The service will be available to subscribers from about the end of August. The charges, which have not been finally fixed, will entail a subscription of between £1,000 and £10,000 and a price per page of 50p to £1. The test run is expected to give pointers as to how the charges should be structured.



Peter Earl: Extel on screen

pected to give pointers as to how the charges should be structured.

The information provided includes profit and loss and balance sheet details, as well as p/e ratios and yields based on the closing share price of the previous night. There are also search facilities.

The information is delivered via the IBM International Telecommunications Network. The Analysis Corporation hopes to extend the service to cover European and Japanese quoted companies.

The service has cost £3 million to set up. The company has 30 employees on accounting and financial backgrounds who select the data, most of which comes from the individual companies.

Bond Corp blames lawyers

Perth (Reuters) — Bond Corporation Holdings has blamed its law firm for confusion about the company's lodging of a formal bid for Bell Group.

Bond Corp said in a statement that an error by Blake Dawson Waldron meant "Part A" documents had not been lodged last month as stated by Mr Alan Bond, the company chairman.

Mr Bond had said the documents were lodged well before the National Companies and Securities Commission (NCSC), Australia's corporate watchdog, ended a private hearing into Bell share sales after an offer by Bond Corp to make a full bid for Bell.

Mr Bond had denied the NCSC forced his company into making the Aus\$860 million (£375 million) bid for Bell Group.

Mr Henry Bosch, the NCSC chairman, disputed Bond's statement and said no such documents had been lodged. He said the NCSC had accepted Bond's proposal of a full bid for Bell Group as a commercial resolution to the possibility of "unacceptable conduct" charges over Bond's purchase of 19.99 per cent of Bell Group from Mr Robert Holmes à Court.

shining through in City profit estimates.

Given its broad hold in the home fashion market, whose overall worth is currently £4.4 billion at retail selling prices and set to rise to £5.2 billion by 1990, Coloroll's continued growth rate looks assured — provided there are no radical changes in spending patterns.

Work is already under way to assimilate John Crowther. Assuming that Coloroll can continue to work its magic on the financial ratios, the combined group should this year be capable of turning in pretax profits of £59 million.

At 191p, up 9p, the shares are on a 7.6 times rating, which is somewhat under-estimated prospects. A rating of 9, or 225p, would seem more appropriate, but still ungenerous. One to buy and tuck away.

Regalian

When panic reigns in financial markets, good shares suffer along with bad. The price of shares in Regalian Properties, best known for its high-price projects in London's Yuppiedland east of Tower Bridge, simply collapsed. But for the brave, they proved a magnificent buy at 95p, having crashed from well above 300p.

Mr David Goldstone, the Regalian chairman, has confirmed what the fast recovering share price had been signalling for some time — that all is well in Docklands and

that elsewhere, the property boom continues unabated. Profits emerged perhaps 5 per cent ahead of market expectations, at £22.7 million compared with a mere £8.2 million in the previous year. With earnings per share 83 per cent ahead and dividends 75 per cent higher, shareholders have little to complain about.

Even now, with Regalian's shares at 180p there is plenty still to go for. The group expects to complete sales of perhaps 1,000 units in the current financial year. Exceptionally heavy demand is being met in the top of the market developments in London and the trail-blazing urban renewal projects in the provinces. The fear that Regalian was over exposed to Docklands is now seen to be overdone. Only 19 per cent of budgeted turnover this year will arise from Docklands, where buoyant sales have resumed after the post crash slowdown.

Regalian does not turn a hair at outside forecasts of profits in the region of £40 million this year, putting the shares on a prospective multiple of less than seven. With a development programme stretching five years ahead, and growing opportunities arising from Regalian's pioneering urban refurbishment work, the rating appears too harsh.

Financing is well under control with net debt in the region of £35 million at the year end against assets of perhaps double that.

Lloyd's to study regulation costs

By Our City Staff

Lloyd's insurance market has appointed Peat Marwick McLintock, the accountant, to study the costs associated with self-regulation with a view to seeing whether these can be reduced without compromising the protection of names and policy holders.

The study will provide information on what it costs underwriting agents to comply with the rules introduced under the 1982 Lloyd's Act.

Since January 1983, more than 60 by-laws, five regulations and two codes of conduct have been introduced.

Lloyd's 1987 annual report and accounts, published yesterday, showed borrowings fell £22.9 million to £100.8 million, the first reduction since 1979.

The final cost of the controversial new Lloyd's building, excluding internal modifications to be carried out soon, is expected to be less than the previous estimate of £191 million.

The PCW settlement last year cost Lloyd's £50.5 million and was met by the Central Fund, which fell to £254.4 million from £279.2 million at the end of 1986.

Lloyd's operating income rose by £18.5 million or 15 per cent, to £140.7 million and expenditure rose by 16 per cent to £113.5 million. Employee costs rose by 10 per cent.

The report for the first time carried a statement on the progress of regulation at Lloyd's.

John Hayter Holdings and Alston Brockbank Agencies, two Lloyd's managing agents, have agreed to merge.

The combined group, to be called Hayter Brockbank, will manage syndicates with a capacity of £83.3 million this year, and have members' agencies acting for names whose premium capacity is £130.9 million this year.

Osborne profit up 41% as it seeks full listing

By Alexandra Jackson

Osborne & Little, the quality wallpaper and furnishing fabrics company quoted on the USM, produced pretax profits of £2 million in the year to end-March, 41 per cent more than last year. Sales advanced from £8.6 million to £10.7 million.

A final dividend of 3.3p was declared, making a total of 5p for the year, a 28 per cent increase. Earnings per share rose from 13.12p to 18.39p.

The group is seeking a full stock market listing, believing it will be in keeping with the progress being made by the company in Britain and abroad.

Sir Peter Osborne, the chairman and managing director, said the progress last year was across the board and that the current year had started well.

"Exchange movements meant our new operation in New York only broke even last year," he added, "but we are expecting a worthwhile contribution this year, following an adjustment in our selling prices."

"The US is an important market for our products, but so is continental Europe. We have plans to focus our marketing strategy there more sharply."

Exports account for 33 per cent of Osborne & Little's sales.

US futures broker accused

By Colin Narborough

Refco Incorporated, of Chicago, one of the world's biggest futures brokers, has been charged by the industry's watchdog in the United States with excessive and unauthorized trading in futures.

A public hearing has been ordered to determine whether the charges filed against Refco are true and what sanctions

might be required.

The watchdog agency, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, also names Paragon Futures Association, a related broker, and eight former Refco employees in its 11 complaints.

The CFTC has charged Refco with "churning" customer accounts, which involves the artificial speeding up of business to increase

commission, and with making unauthorized trades.

Refco denies the allegations and says it has refused to enter into an agreement with the CFTC to settle the claims. It says Paragon began introducing customer accounts to it in November 1984, but Refco ended the relationship in July 1985 after it discovered Paragon brokers might have churned some accounts.

The next move will be to convince consumers to take more soft drinks with meals: Coca-Cola advertising in the US, where the public drinks three times as many soft drinks as Britons, is targeting children's breakfasts.

Healthy living lifts soft drink sales

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

Consumption of soft drinks in Britain has increased by a quarter in the last five years because of moves towards healthier living. The market is worth £3 billion, according to a report by Britvic Corona.

With beer and coffee markets static and the consumption of tea falling, soft drinks are growing at the rate of 5 to 8 per cent a year. By the end of the century consumption levels in Britain, now at 7 billion litres a year, will rise to 12 billion litres.

Improved packaging which particularly appeals to younger consumers, impulse purchasing, the increase in vending machines, and the boost that the de-regulation of licensing hours in England and Wales will bring are some of the factors influencing the market. Mr Peter Gibbs, marketing director of Britvic Corona, said.

The group which is jointly owned by Bass, Allied-Lyons, Whitbread and Pepsi was formed in January 1987. Its main rival is Cadbury Schweppes which is linked with Coca-Cola.

The market is dominated by carbonates which account for half the soft drinks volume, with low calorie versions taking as much as half the market among the colas. Low calorie and juice-based carbonated

drinks are growing while the mixers and shandy markets are relatively static.

Orange remains the favourite flavour among fruit juice drinks accounting for 60 per cent of that segment although grapefruit, apple and pineapple are taking a larger share. Mineral and spring waters continue to advance while alcohol-free and low alcohol drinks are experiencing rapid, and unexpected, growth.

This is because the advertising of these products has ceased to stress their negative appeal of helping drivers keep their licences. The result is that some brewers are introducing draught non-alcoholic beer. This development is also a result of the move away from heavy alcohol consumption and the trend towards healthier eating and drinking, says the report.

Artificial colours concern 50 per cent of consumers surveyed after the publicity two years ago about tartrazine although there is much less worry over artificial flavours, sweeteners and preservatives.

The next move will be to convince consumers to take more soft drinks with meals: Coca-Cola advertising in the US, where the public drinks three times as many soft drinks as Britons, is targeting children's breakfasts.

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NatWest

BUSINESS RESERVE ACCOUNT

NatWest announces the following changes in Business Reserve Account interest rates, effective from 8th June 1988:

Customers not affected by CRR		Customers affected by CRR	
Gross interest per annum	Balance	Net interest per annum	Gross equivalent per annum to a basic rate taxpayer
7.50%	£25,000 - £250,000	5.50%	7.33%
6.75%	£5,000 - £24,999	4.875%	6.50%

National Westminster Bank PLC
41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

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The prices in this section refer to Tuesday's trading

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES			
Market rates for June 8			
	Spot	1 month	3 month
Argentina austral	18.37		
Australia dollar	2.2		

	Range	Close	% Import	% Export		
New Yrk	1.8155-1.8225	1.8155-1.8165	0.11-0.08pr	0.37-0.32pr	Bahrain dinar	0.6
	1.8136-1.8223	2.2175-2.2207	0.13-0.39%	0.44-0.65%	Brazil cruzeiro	289
					Compie pound	29

London	2.2170-2.2230	2.2170-2.2230	4 1/2-5 1/2 pr	4 1/2-5 1/2 pr	Spain and Portugal	2.24
Amsterdam	3.5070-3.5097	3.5021-3.5058	1 1/2-1 pr	4 1/2-5 1/2 pr	Finland marks	7.5
Brussels	65.05-65.41	65.10-65.27	20-2 pr	50-30 pr	Greece drachmas	24
					United Kingdom sterling	2.45

open high	11.85-12.11.85	11.85-12.11.85	7 1/2-11.85	12-11.85	hong kong dollar	100	12.11
open	1.1635-1.1696	1.1682-1.1672	13-7pr	47-34pr	India rupee	100	12.11
close	3.1160-3.1273	3.1199-3.1235	1 1/2-1pr	4 1/2-3 1/2pr	Kuwait dinar KD	100	0.5

Saudi	253.99-255.6	253.99-255.04	48-50ds	185-2300s	Malaysia ringgit	4.6
Saudi	205.72-206.61	205.79-205.26	24-43ds	74-88ds	Mexico peso	2.5
Saudi	2315.22-2322.14	2315.22-2318.31	1-6ds	8-15ds	New Zealand dollar	2.5

peso	11.3396-11.3801	11.3396-11.3549	4%-6%ds	12%-14%ds	Saudi Arabia riyal	6.8
franc	10.5243-10.5596	10.5281-10.5393	1%-x pr	3%-2% pr	Singapore dollar	3.6
rand	10.8558-10.8910	10.8721-10.8836	1%-2%ds	4%-5%ds	South Africa rand (fin)	5.3

227.48-228.30	227.48-227.79	1-1/4pr	2 1/2-2 1/2pr	S Africa rand (com)....	4.0
21.89-21.98	21.89-21.92	8 1/2-7 1/4pr	25 1/2-22 1/2pr	U A E dirham	6.6
2 5057.2 R073	2 6007.2 R040	1 1/2-1pr	4-3 1/4pr		

Premium = pr. Discount = dc.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES			
Ireland	1.5585-1.5600	Denmark	6.5140-6.5190
Italy	1.3600-1.3650	Spain	166.6400-166.6900

Singapore	2,016-2,017	W Germany	1,715-1,716	Belgium (Com)	
Malaysia	2,576-2,577	Switzerland	1,430-1,431	Hong Kong	7
Australia	1,239-1,240	Netherlands	1,925-1,926	Portugal	14

Canada	1.221-1.222	France	5.7920-5.7950	Spain	1.221-1.222
Norway	5.9730-5.9780	Japan	125.18-125.28	Austria	1.221-1.222
Sweden	6.2410-6.2480				

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank

HOFFEX and E

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %: Clearing Banks 8% Finance Hse 9%

Overnight High: 5% Low 1 Week fixed: 6%	Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 m
Treasury Bills (Discount %)	Dollar:	7 1/4-7 1/2	7 1/4-7 1/2	7 1/4-7 1/2
	Call: 7 1/4-8%			

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420	2421	2422	2423	2
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● Ex dividend ● Ex all b Forecast dividend ● Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment h Pre-merger figures ● Forecast earnings ● Ex other i Ex rights ● Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

June 9, 1988

Lee Bedford, a staff consultant, says the changing profile of business can be improved if executives are properly advised

The wind of change that is blowing through Britain's businesses is a thoroughly healthy one. There is, however, a growing realization among top managers that it can be given added impetus if executives who are affected by it are given practical help as they make their way to new jobs.

It is vital that swift action is taken to release the executives who no longer function as fully effective members of the team. But the firm that has only half thought through the decision to release staff is likely to find itself labelled "uncaring", and there is no better formula than that to generate low morale with adverse effects on efficiency and productivity.

In the past, much lip service has been paid to these considerations, but there are now clear signs that at last the message is getting through. A change there must be, but that does not mean that concern for the individual needs to go by the board. Outplacement is there to help.

Outplacement is not a concept born of a desire to cosset executives from the effects of change. It is, in fact, a thoroughly sensible, constructive and economically sound answer to the problems resulting from the pressing need to achieve change at the workplace.

To suggest that the only alternative open to a manager, who through no fault of his own ceases to be able to meet the changed requirements of his employer, is relegation to the unemployed list is an untenable proposition. The knowledge, skills and experience he has acquired over the years are precious assets.

The only question is how best to market them in order that another firm — at a different stage of development — may be able to take advantage of them.

The fundamental strength of the outplacement idea is that it provides an objective third party at a time when it is most needed. It is not a role that the employer, however well intentioned, can effectively play. Not only is his credibility vis-à-vis the individual "dented", but he does not have the necessary skills. Anyone who has been made redundant will need no reminding how low they felt on being told, however kindly, that their future no longer rested with that particular firm.

Therefore, the first task of the outplacement consultant is to "listen", to repair shattered morale and to convince his client that "life after the company" is no myth, but reality.

Outplacement has many steps. The next one is to identify and bring out skills — some probably long since forgotten — as well as



Employees can find a new stimulus in outplacement, while the employer gains

strengths and weaknesses. The aim is to build up an image of the person that can be projected back to him or her in a positive way.

● Identifying possible new opportunities.

● Finding out what the individual wants to do, and firms that are likely to provide fertile ground where the executives will flourish anew.

● Tracking down the right executives to contact.

● Providing assistance with writing job applications. It is one thing to write normal business letters from one's office, quite another composing self-promoting letters. And writing the curriculum vitae, that indispensable tool of the job search, is an art in itself.

● Grooming the individual in self-presentation, handling the job

interview (involving the use of the video camera); in short, "producing" him or her. As in the performing arts, not even the most brilliant artist would dream of appearing without production or direction.

All these things form part of the outplacement process. The consultant provides an office, a telephone, secretarial support, headed notepaper, access to information — in short, all the facilities needed to land a new job.

Outplacement is not a recruiting agency function. It is much more than that. Its purpose is to stimulate people who have become used to one way of life, but must now alter course.

Executives who have been outplaced say that it has given them a new view of themselves, and a fresh lease of life. As a result,

they have gone on to conquer new heights.

Because the most senior managers in a company are the more difficult to outplace — they are usually older, they earn more and their job expectations are greater — initially, at least, they tended to be the chief beneficiaries of the new idea.

But, over the years, it has become accepted that outplacement has an important part to play, not only at the top, but down the line as well, as far down as the shopfloor. After all, the supervisor who has just been made redundant is as anxious as the next man to discuss his future with an experienced counsellor. At the lower levels, however, the numbers involved are usually much greater — dozens, running

into hundreds sometimes — but expectations are less.

Thus, while the basic principles of outplacement hold good, the work is simpler, but more concentrated. Consultants set up at the place of work and run down the line, job-oriented discussion groups, each with up to 20 employees. The subjects covered will include how and where to find a job, composing the work history and the job application letter, how to use the telephone, and so on.

Additionally, individual sessions will be held to give advice on any personal problems. If they so wish, wives will be involved. Consultants will make return visits to give whatever further advice that may be needed.

The cost of executive outplacement varies between 15 and 20 per cent of a year's current

salary, plus VAT. Firms that demand less than 20 per cent tend to make an extra charge to cover administration, secretarial support, phone calls etc. A company wanting to outplace an executive earning a salary of £35,000 a year would, therefore, find itself footing a bill of the order of £6,000 to £8,000. Where on-site group counselling is involved, charges also vary. They could amount to between £300 and £400 a day for each employee, but all figures are negotiable.

In conclusion, outplacement is a relatively new idea, American in origin, but now practised fairly widely in this country, and elsewhere — France, Italy and Austria, for instance. It represents a new attitude towards the employment of executives, as well as staff lower down the chain, and the realization that the pursuit of efficiency need not be in conflict with management's duty towards its employees.

Is outplacement expensive? It depends on the value you place on the increased sales, not to mention the greater sum of human happiness among members of the team, that should result from the outplacement operation.

Lee Bedford is managing director of LeHane International, a consultancy that specializes in outplacement.

APPOINTMENTS PHONE: 01-481 4481 — APPOINTMENTS PHONE: 01-481 4481

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**“At first I gave consultancy 2 years”
“Now I'm enjoying it
too much to go back”**

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**“Consultancy is a people business.
If you have a determined
personality and relate well to
people, you'll enjoy it.”**

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This high profile role demands an individual with at least 10 years senior managerial experience in the field of economic development within the public or private sector. Excellent negotiation skills, the ability to lead and direct activities which span many disciplines and the flair to identify opportunities and develop them are all vital qualities.

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Applications are welcome regardless of sex, marital status, ethnic origin or disability. Full information about these posts is available on request from Eddy Martin, Personnel Section, Economic Development Department, Springfield, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2LL. Tel: (0622) 671411, ext. 3154 and 3153. For an informal discussion contact the Head of Economic Development, Tim Byles, ext. 3129. Closing date for applications is 27th June.

**Kent
County
Council**

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MSL Chartered Secretary

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We are looking for an experienced person with a minimum of 5 years experience in accounts and administration. The post is a responsible one and offers excellent career opportunities. Please send CV to: MSL Chartered Secretary, 32 Aybrook Street, London W1M 3JL.

Details from MC
25 Marylebone Rd
London, NW1 5J
Tel: 01-935 372

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world class

So if you feel your present position is only a dress rehearsal, now is the time to steal the limelight. Please send your CV indicating current salary, to our Consultant, Chris Brooks, Ref. no. 14083, MSL International, Sovereign House, 12-18 Queen Street, Manchester M2 5HS.

Four ambitious, enthusiastic individuals required for new London branch of Surrey-based company. Applicants may be of any discipline, but should be numerate, literate and possess excellent communication skills. In return, we offer full training (leading to a professional qualification), early management opportunities, and high rewards. Telephone, in the first instance

GRADUATES required. 3 Trainee Executives aged 21+ required for established London consultancy. Anticipated first year earnings of £12,000. Tel: 0932 688 000.

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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SALES PROFESSIONALS

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If so, then the place to be is the Dorchester Hotel, London on June 15th. That's where you can meet many market leading companies who are interested in employing quality sales professionals.

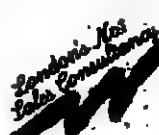
It will be no ordinary recruitment event. We have carefully chosen just one top company from each major sales field to ensure that you don't waste your time talking to the wrong sort of company.

There will be a glass of champagne, excellent interview facilities, and plenty of time for you and the employers to talk without any pressure. The rest will be up to you. Can you sell yourself to the best?

ALEXANDER MANN ASSOCIATES PLC.

The Alexander Mann Recruitment Event will be held at the Dorchester Hotel, Ballroom Entrance, Park Lane, London from 10.00 am to 10.00 pm on 15th June 1988.

For more information about future planned events phone Richard Woods or Nicholas Baldock on 01-631 3275 or write to them at Alexander Mann Associates plc, 231 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9AE.



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Whitehead Mann are one of the top five UK executive search consultancies. We are expanding our Management Audit and Assessment Centre and need several people to resource a major growth programme.

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- psychometric assessment

If you are aged between 28 and 40 and come from either of these backgrounds we would like to hear from you.

An attractive starting salary is negotiable across a wide range and the total package includes a car and a performance related bonus.

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STATIC-DYNAMIC-ACOUSTIC
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Candidates will have a sound track record of 7-10 years in solution sales, with a good understanding of the marketplace. They will be highly professional and confident, capable of dealing with people at all levels.

Please reply quoting Ref NF/SM1, Intercon Computers Ltd, Intercon House, 522, Fulham Road, London SW6 5NR

under a private & confidential cover with your career achievements to date.

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£ Very high earnings potential - Croydon based
Reed Computing is a division of Reed Executive PLC, one of Europe's most powerful recruitment services organisations.

The continued expansion of our UK branch network coupled to the fast-moving, dynamic nature of the Computing/IT industry has created a number of new vacancies for career-minded young professionals to be based in our strategically important CROYDON branch.

Ideally we would like to talk to graduates, aged mid/late 20s who have gained some solid experience working in the services sector, eg recruitment, retail management, media, PR, in fact ANY CUSTOMER/CLIENT-ORIENTED ENVIRONMENT. In return we can offer a comprehensive training programme that will equip you with the skills to make rapid progress and help you take full advantage of genuine career prospects leading to senior management.

The high earnings potential is directly geared to the commitment you are prepared to make, so if you believe you have the tenacity and flair to become part of our success story, contact Frances Stewart, Development Manager, on 01-588 3748 for further information. Written enquiries, addressed to her at Reed Computing, 56 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7DL, should include a full CV. Interviews will be arranged at the very earliest opportunity.

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Excellent training, first class administrative support and one of the widest, most

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Many features differentiate us from our competition, but three are of particular importance. Our specialist operations in marketing, accountancy, financial services, the public sector and the Middle East add value to our recruitment skills. Our international office network gives us a genuine global recruitment capability. Our reward package, which includes a high basic salary, exceptional profit sharing, car, and a full range of executive benefits enables us to attract and motivate the best people. We view commission-based reward systems to be incompatible with the level of professionalism we seek.

If you join us, your brief will be broad. As a consultant you will help expand our business, deliver high quality, cost and time effective consulting services, and meet demanding financial targets. As a manager you may be asked to open a new office, develop a new product, or even build a new business unit under MSL's banner.

We would like to hear from senior line managers, professional recruiters - or established recruitment consultants - in their 30's or 40's. There are a number of opportunities in both planned and existing offices throughout the country. To find out more about the possibilities please write with brief career details to John Hodgson, Managing Director - Operations, MSL International (UK) Ltd, 32 Aybrook Street, London W1M 3IL.

MSL International

CooperVision International Ltd

AREA MANAGER - DISTRIBUTORS

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COOPERVISION INTERNATIONAL LTD. manufacture and market a wide range of ophthalmic diagnostic and surgical equipment, intra ocular lenses and disposables. These are used by ophthalmic surgeons and hospitals throughout the world.

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Applications are invited from candidates with extensive Distributor management experience in all or part of the territory. A health care products (not pharmaceutical) background is essential and capital goods experience would be particularly relevant. Extensive travel will be involved.

The position is based in Milton Keynes. Salary will not be a barrier for the right applicant and, in addition, we offer free medical insurance, together with pension and life assurance schemes, and choice of Company Car. There is a performance related bonus scheme.

Written applications with detailed CV's, giving daytime and evening telephone numbers, and including details of current salary and conditions, should be sent to:

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THE SUNDAY TIMES THE TIMES

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The busy Classified Advertisement Department handles over 6,000 calls per day. You will be dealing with regular advertisers, and as much of our business is canvassed from new advertisers, your ability to communicate effectively is essential. You don't need a telephone sales background, just a minimum of 2 years office experience and because you will be working our direct-input system, you will need to be able to type a minimum of 35wpm and have accurate spelling.

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In addition to the attractive salary, there is a profit sharing bonus and share ownership scheme. A car is provided and other benefits are in accordance with best modern practice, including full assistance with relocation.

In the first instance, please write, in confidence, with full details of qualifications and career to: R. MacGregor, Managing Director. He will supply further details about the appointment and, if required, an application form.

Tullis Russell & Co. Ltd.

*Markinch, Glenrothes,
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Telephone: 0592 753311.*

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The rewards, both financial and career opportunities, are good for the right person.

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If you are looking for a rewarding career in a progressive company, please contact with full details, Thomas Hayes, Managing Director, GreatNorthern Health Management Limited, Euston House, 81-103 Euston Street, London NW1 2ET. Tel: 01-387 4401

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£22,000 + Car

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You should be able to demonstrate a record of success in your career to date.
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We offer a generous relocation package, including:
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FOR

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Salary is negotiable depending on age and experience. Applicants should write to the first instance with CV to:

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The firm brings together the strengths and skills of three operating companies - Cresap, Tillinghast and TPF & C - and operates as one firm worldwide.

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TPF&C

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Please write, enclosing your C.V. to Craig Robertson, our advising consultant quoting ref CR/0906/8.

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Telephone 01-379 5252

Green Field

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DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

... to work in the Research Department (Soviet Section) of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London, providing consecutive interpretation from and into Russian for FCO and other government departments at conferences and negotiations up to and including the highest level, and contributing to FCO's research output on Soviet affairs.

You must be a British citizen, preferably under the age of 40, have exceptional fluency in Russian, a sound understanding of the Soviet Union and its political, economic, and social system. You should also possess a demonstrable aptitude for high-level interpreting work and be prepared to undertake intensive interpreting and other training as necessary after appointment. You should preferably have a relevant degree with first or

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Salary: as Research Officer £9340-£12,615; as Senior Research Officer £13,080-£16,155, plus an allowance for interpreting duties. Level of appointment and starting salary according to age, qualifications and experience. Good promotion prospects to Principal Research Officer; salary (under review) £16,555-£21,815.

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As a Principal Consultant you will be responsible for business building in your specialist area, and working with clients at the most senior level to find for them, top quality people with the experience and potential to make a marked contribution to the success of their businesses.

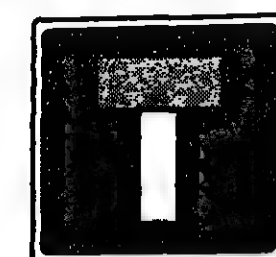
The job is not just about recruitment. To succeed you must have been successful in profit centre management or operated at the top of a major function and you will bring to the job a desire to operate independently and to build a significant business.

For those with the energy, personality and experience we need, the career opportunities and rewards will be hard to match.

If you would like to join us, please write enclosing your CV and quoting ref 5060 to Bill Barclay, P-E Inbucon, 34 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH.

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Our Client is an equal opportunities employer. All applications will be treated in strictest confidence and companies you do not wish your cv. to be forwarded to should be listed on a separate sheet.

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For further particulars and application forms apply to: The Director of Personnel (BRK), The National Farmers' Union, Agriculture House, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7NJ

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Sibec (Scotland) Ltd.
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Glasgow G2 2JG

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HORIZONS
How to win an appraisal

There cannot be any time in the year when people look to their pay packets, and do not wonder what sort of a rise, if any, they are likely to receive. "External" factors such as profits and cost of living increases, over which an individual has no control, all have their effect, but a large factor in most salary increments is based on how the company judges the employee to have performed, an area over which the aware individual may have a great deal of control if he so chooses.

The appraisal interview is the arena where much of this testing assessment occurs, and though it can be seen as a golden opportunity for mutual benefit to employer and employee alike, it is often seen as an antagonistic situation and commonly inspires dread on both sides. One reason for this is that the link between salary increase and performance appraisal is actually a very destructive one. A publication produced by the Industrial Society, *Appraisal and Appraisal Interviewing*, puts the case very succinctly. The link is "likely to direct attention away from the main purpose of the system and reduce the honesty of the two parties. Managers may raise their judgments in order to avoid conflict, job-holders may try to bargain down their targets in order to inflate achievement next time around."

The important point here is that salary is a recognition of past performance, appraisal is principally about future performance, and is a discussion.

Another problem stems from the fact that few line managers are trained as interviewers, and because the appraisal interview is one of the trickiest kinds of interview, many find they are ill-equipped to cope. Bad appraisers tend to fall into two camps: those who find the whole process to awkward to deal with, and solve the problem by turning it into a formality, and those who already know what they think. You need to change your spots, and fast.

Either way, the input from the employee is minimal and irrelevant, no interaction occurs, and both parties are at best wasting their time. A bad interview can be profoundly demotivating.

Organizations are often to blame because they do not define the purpose of appraisal, or say what the interview should be about. As a result, the interview is used as an occasion "to tell you how you have done". You are confronted with a completed appraisal form, made out without hearing your side of the story, and you have little chance to put your point of view.

What should be happening is for employees and managers to sit down together, look at how work has been progressing, share information and agree how work can be done better in future. What can be done to help this process



Clare Hogg looks at ways to approach an office interview that normally instill fear into both parties, but can be used to suit your own character and establish ambitions

along - or even get it started? After all, the employee wants it to be a success, because it will help him, or her to be more successful. It is not a game where each party tries to out-smart the other, and the employee has the most to lose if unsuccessful.

Peter Packard has been a consultant on performance appraisal for more than 17 years, and has some helpful advice. His first suggestion concerns preparation. Think out what you want to get from the interview. What problems need to be cleared up? Are there nagging arguments with other departments still unsettled? What would you like your manager to be doing differently? What would increase your motivation? What are your chances of promotion, and what would help you to do your job better?

Mr Packard says that everyone should be able to think of at least three things for this last consideration.

You may be prepared for the interview, but is your manager? A good interview should be well structured, and

like any business meeting, it should have an agenda. A manager will have his or her agenda but the person being appraised should have one, too. If the employee is not asked about it, he or she should try to establish it by saying something like "I was looking forward to this meeting because I particularly wanted to talk to you about x, y and z." The Industrial Society booklet includes a helpful checklist for use in this preparation.

The manager should also state the purpose of the interview, but if he assumes that the employee knows already, a question should be asked. "I take it the purpose of our meeting is to enable me to do my job better?" can hardly be met with anything but agreement.

An employee can work through the agenda points, making sure it is clear who is going to do what - and matters are not just left with a vague "I'll look into it" on the manager's part. Try to agree some sort of time-scale for action.

If things do not seem to be getting anywhere, they should be helped along. An unskilful boss will be grateful for a direct question: "Look, it really would help me to know what you think of my work?" or "Is there anything you would like me to be doing differently?"

Frankness on both sides will help both parties, and may provide an opening for being able to mention some things the manager might do differently. Do not forget that if an employee does well, it will reflect in the manager's own performance appraisal - unless he is dangerously insecure, he wants his staff to do well.

Whatever happens, remember that this may be the only chance to discuss job and career in depth for another year. There may be signs that the interview is closing without all the points being raised. If time really is short, the suggestion of another meeting should be made.

In an appraisal interview a lot more is at stake than monetary reward. It provides the chance to change procedures and structures to suit the employee's own character, to establish ambitions.

Mary Dalmahoy of Pauline Hyde and Associates, leading outplacement consultants, recently made an interesting comment when asked about the demand for their services. "The demand for outplacement sometimes seems in inverse proportion to the quality of the performance appraisal given previously... often the most innovative people are those who are made redundant," she said. At worst, performance appraisal provides a chance to create a situation into which one can fit, or better still, a chance to avert such a catastrophe, at best, an opportunity to improve performance and ability.

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16-18 NEW BRIDGE STREET, LONDON EC4V 6AU.

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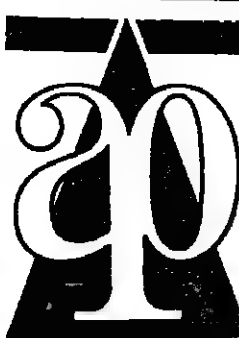
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TENNIS: BECKER SURVIVES TESTING EXAMINATION AT QUEEN'S CLUB, WHILE SEGUSO IS LEFT RUEING A LOSS OF TEMPER

Tenacious Connors holds on for a hard-fought victory

By Richard Evans

In matches that injected flashes of colour and excitement into a grey afternoon at Queen's Club, Jimmy Connors and Boris Becker survived testing examinations of their grass-court form to reach the last 16 of the Stella Artois Championships.

Becker lost the first set to Scott Davis, a talented but maddeningly inconsistent Californian, before the title holder settled into sufficient rhythm on his service returns to come through, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

For Connors, it was all a little more difficult. Playing Robert Seguso, the United States Davis Cup doubles expert, on the centre court, Connors needed to fight his way out of two match points before completing victory by 6-3, 6-7, 10-8 in two hours 35 minutes.

An entertaining contest, sprinkled with touches of real skill from both players, was marred at the end when Seguso, desperate for a victory, resorted to the distractions Connors brings to all his matches, finally snapped.

Still furious that a Connors

backhand, which would have given him two more match points, had not been called out, Seguso threw down his racket at the changeover and was given a code of conduct warning by Stephen Wyard, the umpire.

Seguso then said something and was docked a penalty point, which left Connors serving for the match and 15-love up. Seguso carried on complaining at the injustice of it all and admitted afterwards: "I felt like hitting the guy. You just feel so frustrated after trying so hard and getting a ball called good that was two inches out. It wasn't even close."

Afterwards, the elder player, who knows the various temperatures of hot water on a tennis court from years of personal experience, hinted that Seguso had been unfortunate. "I don't call them. I just hit them," Connors replied when asked about the call. But then, grinning, he made an "out" signal with his thumb.

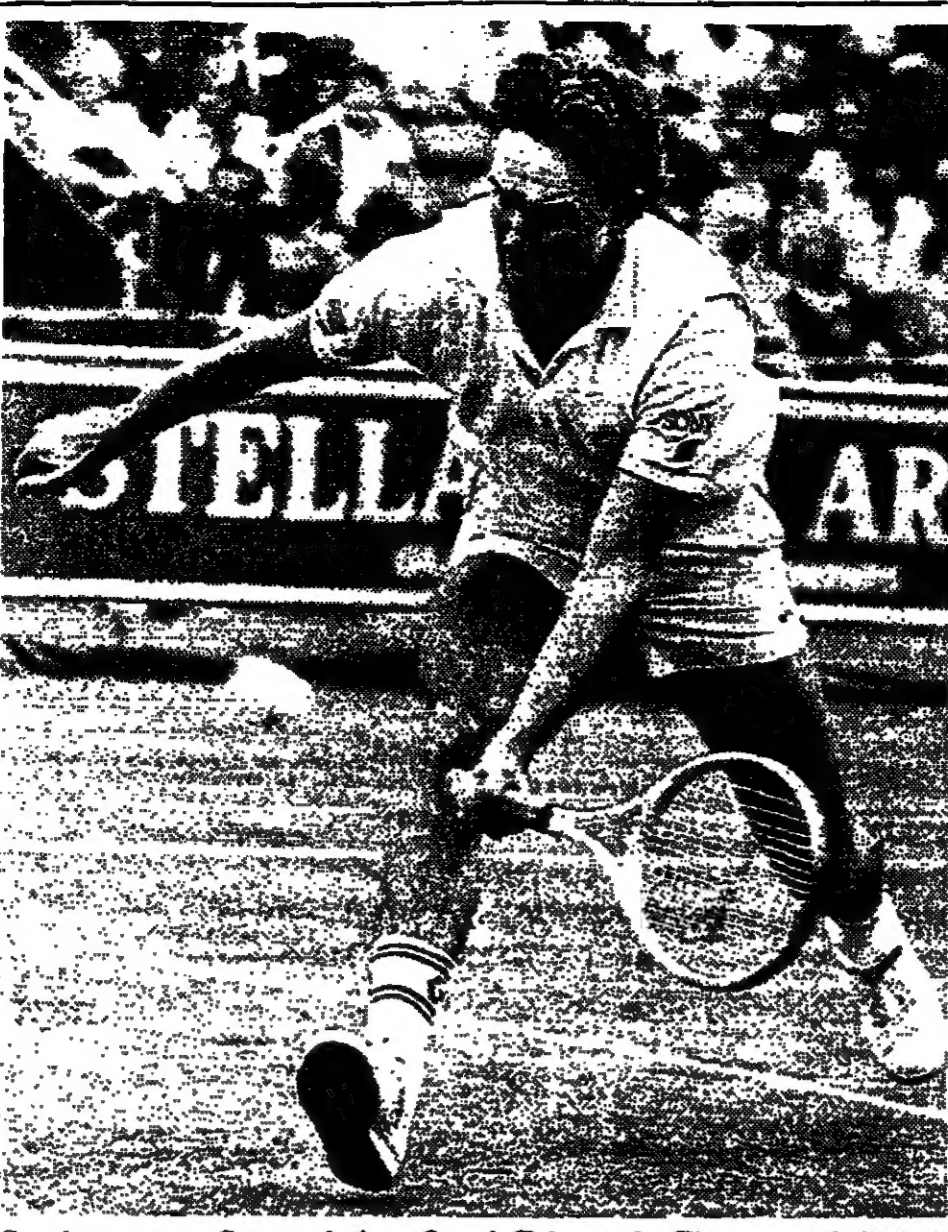
Connors had nearly been out in more permanent terms at 15-40, 4-5 in the third set, but a forehand winner, hit

with typical bravado, and a beautiful first service down the centre took care of the two match points. Then, just for good measure, Connors revealed more of his versatility with a superb winning lob.

There were moments when Connors was grumbling in good-natured fashion about the state of his painful foot and, at times, he found himself slipping on the lines. He was, however, complimentary about the court afterwards, saying that it offered a good level of bounce despite the general dampness.

James Turner was unable to capitalize on his great performance against Slobodan Zivojinovic and went out 6-2, 6-4 to the Australian left-hander, Brod Dyke. David Felgate also lost, 6-4, 7-6, to David Pate, thus ending British interest.

SECOND ROUND: D. Pate (AUS) vs J. Turner, 6-2, 6-4; D. Pate (AUS) vs J. Turner, 6-2, 6-4; C. Van Rensburg (SA) vs G. Visser (AUS), 6-2, 6-3; J. Seguso (USA) vs J. Connors (USA), 6-3, 6-7, 10-8; R. Seguso (USA) vs J. Connors (USA), 6-3, 6-7, 10-8; J. Connors (USA) vs R. Seguso (USA), 6-3, 6-7, 10-8.



Stooping to conquer: Connors winning at Queen's Club yesterday (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

Navratilova tipped by Shriver to retain title

By Barry Wood

Pam Shriver, denied by a constant drought the opportunity to begin the defence of her title at the Dow Classic in Edgbaston yesterday, turned her thoughts towards Wimbledon and concluded that Martina Navratilova must remain the firm favourite despite her recent failure in Paris.

"I think you still have to go with her as favourite," Shriver said. "She's won it eight times, and she has never lost in the final."

"Steffi Graf is obviously a very close No. 2 favourite but my own opinion about her is that she has played only one grass-court tournament in three years. But she will be on the grass from the end of this week and chances are that by the end of Wimbledon, when she has to be tough, she will be there."

Shriver, who reserves judgement on her own chances until she has played a couple of matches, even considers that Navratilova will accept another Wimbledon title above regaining her No. 1 ranking.

She said: "Wimbledon is her place and she'll have all guns firing, no doubt about it. I think she's accepted being No. 2 only under one circumstance and that is if she could go away with the Wimbledon and US Open titles every year. I think she'd give up the No. 1 ranking for that."

RESULTS: Second round: D. van Rensburg (SA) vs J. Turner (AUS), 6-2, 6-4; R. Seguso (USA) vs J. Connors (USA), 6-3, 6-7, 10-8; J. Connors (USA) vs R. Seguso (USA), 6-3, 6-7, 10-8; J. Connors (USA) vs R. Seguso (USA), 6-3, 6-7, 10-8.

Lendl provides ideal prelude

By David Powell

A former international speed-skater and a player too lowly ranked to rate a mention in the Comprehensive Men's Tennis Council media guide is no-body's idea of the perfect scapegoat, but Andrew Castle and Jeremy Bates will be more determined today to make their shorts work against Finland's finest than they were yesterday against Ivan Lendl.

Drinking water after wine it may be, but Castle and Bates must, for the sake of Britain's Davis Cup future, give vintage performances against Veli Paloheimo and Olli Rahnasto after testing their skills against Lendl. "It's just what we needed — a workout with the greatest," Warren Jacques, the national team manager, enthused.

After eight months in charge of the Davis Cup, Jacques said, and his task is to get

Britain back into the world group from which they were relegated 11 months ago. According to the British team, the British team should win 5-0 in the three-day European-African zone A semifinal and take its place against Austria or Nigeria in the final.

Jacques, who has succeeded Paul Hutchins, takes pride in the fact that the two men he has selected for both singles and doubles have climbed the rankings in no uncertain fashion. "When I started with them a few months ago they were near the 200 mark, but in the last few weeks Jeremy has been around the 60s and 70s and Andrew around the 80s and 90s," Jacques said.

Castle's present ranking, 89th, puts him 505 places ahead of Paloheimo, who he faces in the opening rubber on the grass courts at Redland Green, Bris-

tol, today. The media guide tells us nothing about Paloheimo. The little we do know of his ranking and the fact that he has not played on grass for three years — is encouraging for Jacques.

Bates, world-rated 72nd, follows against Rahnasto, who has slipped down the rankings as quickly as he used to slip across the ice. Two years ago he was 144th; now he is 445th. Rahnasto may be fast, but Bates is no slouch. "The most noticeable thing about both the British boys is that they have been working much harder and are

much fitter," Jacques said. Now Jacques, an Australian whose reputation as a coach perhaps outshines his record as a player, is working on Bates's service.

Jacques reached the last 16 of the Wimbledon singles in 1962 but had a hand in the 1985 final as Kevin Curren's coach. Unlike Hutchins, who admitted that he might have helped the players more had he not carried the burden of administration at the same time, Jacques is leaving the paperwork to others.

In the nine months since I took over I have spent seven and a bit on the road with the players and that is one reason they have improved," Jacques said. "I have been to Australia, the Far East, Kitzbuehel and the European Cup. The players need someone working with them all the time instead of being left to go their own way."

WINTER SPORT

Argentina back on calendar

From Iain Macleod

In this fascinating but improbable setting for the 36th congress of the International Ski Federation (FIS), yesterday's winter sports calendar congress offered further evidence of how the World Cup is preparing to breach new frontiers.

The 1988-89 World Cup will, after a break of one year, return to Argentina in August when two men's downhill races are held at Las Lenas. Because of the world championships at Vail in Colorado in February, the European segment of the season will end in January, much earlier than usual. The season will finish in North America and Japan at the end of February and beginning of March.

Although much of the following season's calendar remains provisional, radical changes are planned. Las Lenas will again stage races in August but the most startling development will be the historic men's World Cup slalom and giant slalom races at the Tiedico Alpine Resort in Australia.

And, in another deviation from the traditional European start to the season, most races in November and December will be held in North America, thus taking the World Cup away from Europe for almost a year. The racers will return to Europe in January and the climax of the season will take place in Scandinavia.

There is also a proposal that in future starting places for the leading skiers should be determined by World Cup points and not, as at present, by FIS points. The 1988-89 World Cup calendar for 1988-89 is as follows: Nov 25 to 28: Las Lenas (Argentina); Dec 2 to 5: Val d'Isere, France; Dec 10 to 13: Kitzbuehel, Austria; Dec 18 to 21: Kranjska Gora, Yugoslavia; Dec 28 to 31: Anken, Austria; Jan 4 to 7: Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany; Jan 11 to 14: Kitzbuehel, Austria; Jan 18 to 21: Anken, Austria; Jan 25 to 28: Whistler, Canada; Feb 1 to 4: Whistler, Canada; Feb 8 to 11: Whistler, Canada; Feb 15 to 18: Whistler, Canada; Feb 22 to 25: Whistler, Canada; Feb 29 to Mar 4: Whistler, Canada; Mar 11 to 14: Whistler, Canada; Mar 18 to 21: Whistler, Canada; Mar 25 to 28: Whistler, Canada; Mar 31 to Apr 4: Whistler, Canada; Apr 11 to 14: Whistler, Canada; Apr 18 to 21: Whistler, Canada; Apr 25 to 28: Whistler, Canada; May 5 to 8: Whistler, Canada; May 12 to 15: Whistler, Canada; May 19 to 22: Whistler, Canada; May 26 to 29: Whistler, Canada; Jun 2 to 5: Whistler, Canada; Jun 9 to 12: Whistler, Canada; Jun 16 to 19: Whistler, Canada; Jun 23 to 26: Whistler, Canada; Jun 30 to Jul 3: Whistler, Canada; Jul 6 to 9: Whistler, Canada; Jul 13 to 16: Whistler, Canada; Jul 20 to 23: Whistler, Canada; Jul 27 to 30: Whistler, Canada; Aug 3 to 6: Whistler, Canada; Aug 10 to 13: Whistler, Canada; Aug 17 to 20: Whistler, Canada; Aug 24 to 27: Whistler, Canada; Aug 31 to Sep 3: Whistler, Canada; Sep 6 to 9: Whistler, Canada; Sep 13 to 16: Whistler, Canada; Sep 20 to 23: Whistler, Canada; Sep 27 to 30: Whistler, Canada; Oct 3 to 6: Whistler, Canada; Oct 10 to 13: Whistler, Canada; Oct 17 to 20: Whistler, Canada; Oct 24 to 27: Whistler, Canada; Oct 31 to Nov 3: Whistler, Canada; Nov 6 to 9: Whistler, Canada; Nov 13 to 16: Whistler, Canada; Nov 20 to 23: Whistler, Canada; Nov 27 to 30: Whistler, Canada; Dec 3 to 6: Whistler, Canada; Dec 10 to 13: Whistler, Canada; Dec 17 to 20: Whistler, Canada; Dec 24 to 27: Whistler, Canada; Dec 31 to Jan 3: Whistler, Canada; Jan 6 to 9: Whistler, Canada; Jan 13 to 16: Whistler, Canada; Jan 20 to 23: Whistler, Canada; Jan 27 to 30: Whistler, Canada; 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